





Late-night shenanigans

A NIGHT ON THE TOWN WITH CAMPUS 5-0

T

he police. You see them every day, driving, walking, or even biking around town. You see them on TV, and quite likely, you know one or two personally. They represented everything you wanted to be as a kid and everything you hated as an underage teenager with a bottle of booze in your hand. However, despite the consistent presence of the police in our lives, beyond our experiences with the occasional traffic ticket or free ride downtown, very few of us actually know anything about them or the job they do.

WRITTEN BY THOMAS WAGNER // PHOTOS BY RYAN HEISE // ILLUSTRATION BY KATHRYN DUTCHAK

When given the opportunity to tag along with Campus Security Services (CSS) for an evening, it was the unknown aspect of their job that made me say yes. Although initially nervous about the idea of spending six hours with the campus police—feelings only aggravated by the two traffic tickets I received in August alone—Ryan and I marched into Campus Security's office nonetheless.

Surprisingly, the offices aren't nearly as intimidating as expected. Wood-paneled walls and framed pictures make it look more like Archie Bunker's rec-room than the Big House. This tameness, in keeping with the general public view of peace officers as little more than "rent-a-cops," is only reinforced by the two spartan cells deeper in the office.

Although still fitted with heavy prison doors and only a hard bench for furniture, they house bikes and equipment, not crazed criminals.

"We now mostly use them for storage," explains Jesse Howey, a U of A grad in criminology and our officer and guide for the first two hours of the night.

Any pre-conceived notions I may have brought into the experience are dashed when Jerry Donahue, the supervisor on duty when we first showed up, explains just how big Campus Security's job really is.

"We have about 30 patrol officers for 36 000 students," Donahue says. "Many places in the US would have 200–300 officers for the same number of people."

CSS has a big job, responsible for an area that spans from Saskatchewan Drive to University Avenue, 110–116 Street, and all the University's lands across the city. This job is only going to get bigger in the future, with the expansion of the LRT south to the University Farm, and the University's recent acquisition of the old Bay Building (now Enterprise Square) downtown.

However, few of the officers seem all that concerned about the upcoming expansion. This may be due to the extensive training and experience most of them have. Although unable to charge people under the criminal code—as peace officers, they're limited to traffic violations and other minor offences such as public drunkenness—all CSS officers undergo 50 hours of yearly safety

training, and carry defensive batons.

Though this level of training may seem excessive to some, all it takes to understand is a look at CSS's display of confiscated weapons. Like an inventory from the early levels of *Grand Theft Auto*, it contains all the weapons a violent criminal could desire: knives, crowbars, and of course, baseball bats, just to name a few from their very wide selection.

Once thoroughly briefed on the ins and outs of CSS, it was time for me to jump into the car with Officer Howey—and after that little display of weapons, we were ready for some COPS-style action.

Although little happens in this phase of the night—our only stop was for one woman going the wrong way down the one-way bus lane on 114 Street—two important lessons are learned. One, the flashing red and blue of a police car is way more exciting from inside the car, even if it's just for a routine traffic stop. And two, the back seat of a cop car is *not* made for comfort.

Although I ride in style in the shotgun seat next to Officer Howey, Ryan is forced to endure the less-than-ergonomic comforts of the back. Furnished with a molded plastic seat and drains in the floor in case of blood, urine, or Listerite vomit, your worry if you get arrested shouldn't be the upcoming charges, but whether you'll ever feel your ass again after the ride to the station.

Once in the car, Officer Howey explains what we might expect for the night. "We're the first response to everything, from giving first aid to helping people locked out of their office and responding to fire alarms," he says.

Much to my disappointment, he notes that most crime was property-related and usually committed by people not affiliated to the University, meaning that I had little chance to see any classmates getting busted. Suddenly, I start thinking the night will turn out to be more like *To Serve and Protect*.

But just then, we drive by the Delta Kappa Epsilon ("Deke") frat house. A party called "Drink for Charity" was in full swing, and despite common knowledge that frats are lame, I hope that this party is an exception.

Once again, Officer Howey unknowingly destroys those dreams.

"The Dekes are the [biggest] party frat, but we don't usually have to deal with the frats at all," he explains. "Besides, they're off University property, so we can't enforce there."

By 10pm, when the shifts change, there haven't been any disturbances on campus, save for the lost mom driving the wrong way on a one-way. However, at parade, the nightly briefing for the incoming night shift, Ryan and I are given reason to get excited again.

After meeting the officers who make up E Section—one of five shifts of CSS—and being introduced to Sgt Marcel Roth, our escort for the rest of the night, the events of the previous week are reviewed and some interesting numbers brought up:

- 2 B&Es that had been committed since the previous weekend.
- 1 former SU President that was banned from campus.
- 2 robberies committed—one just off Whyte and the other on campus and involving a student whose cellphone was stolen and arm broken.

Furnished with a molded plastic seat and drains in the floor in case of blood, urine, or Listerite vomit, your worry if you get arrested shouldn't be the upcoming charges, but whether you'll ever feel your ass again after the ride to the station.



Only hours earlier, a man had been picked up on campus for several province-wide warrants. Although he wasn't a shirtless, drunken hillbilly, the night had suddenly become more TV-worthy.

Once again, it's time to head out, this time with Sgt Roth. Now an MBA grad student, he's worked for CSS since the early '90s. As we head out into the dark night, I can't help but notice the looks that drunk co-eds give the passing cop car. Tension is high—something almost laughable considering that many officers for CSS are surprisingly easygoing in their jobs and probably enjoyed the antics of the cops in *Super Troopers* more than you did.

With no calls coming in, we make our way up to RATT. On the way back down, Sgt Roth's very presence causes one guy to jump back in surprise, choosing to wait for the next elevator instead of spending 15 seconds with a security officer.

At 11:30pm, we get our first call of the night. A suspicious motorhome is plugged in behind the Seville Centre at South Campus. We wheel into action, checking out Michener Park, an off-campus student housing complex, on the way. Sgt Roth explains that because it's so separated from campus, Michener has its own issues—especially stolen bikes and vehicles, and occasionally domestic disputes.

By midnight, we've arrived at the RV, and my hopes are lifted. The vehicle is old and somewhat tattered, and painted brown and beige—a trailer park special. Ryan and I exchange glances and get out of the vehicle, expecting a good show. However, once again, the situation is hardly Hollywood-esque: it's just a tennis player with an early-morning game. Although I remain suspicious more out of hope for action than anything else, Sgt Roth just tells the man to unplug the RV and move into a better-lit area.

At 12:18am, a guy is caught urinating right outside the CSS office. Sgt Roth just shakes his head. With other officers on the scene, we leave to check up on the frat houses. The Dekes' party is already over. Turns out I was right: frats really are lame.

By 12:30am, with little to do, we hit HUB on foot. As the end of the LRT line, it's well-known to CSS for late night "sleepers," and I find myself wishing for a hobo. Sadly, only the cleaning crew remains.

To break the boredom, Sgt Roth starts telling some of the many stories from his long career. As we pass Humanities, he recalls arresting a man on

the roof of the building. It turns out he was a university staff member with a video camera "borrowed" from Business, making some home movies of girls in their HUB apartments.

"It was really awkward arresting a staff person, someone that I knew, for that," Roth recalls.

The night continues on quietly, and Sgt Roth begins pointing out the various love-nests around campus. Although the fourth floor of Rutherford instantly comes to mind, Sgt Roth has stumbled on horny undergrads all over campus, including in the top floor stairwell of Tory, and, naturally, those steaming up their cars—especially on the top floors of the Windsor and Education Carparks. I thank him for all the tips.

By 1:23am, the storytelling is put on pause as we stumble across over a vehicle going the wrong way down a one-way street in East Campus Village—apparently a popular occurrence tonight. Sgt Roth flashes the lights and pulls the kid's license to check for outstanding warrants or a suspended license. He's clean, and is let go without a ticket.

As we finish, a motion alarm sounds in RATT. We swerve into action and meet up with another officer, Dallas, on the main floor of SUB before getting in the elevator. The elevator doors open, and Sgt Roth and Dallas search the now-empty, bar. Sadly, it was a

false alarm. The only offence in RATT that night was slow service.

Sgt Roth calls a 10-8 on the radio at 2am. Time for a coffee break. And for Ryan and me, the night is over.

We head to the only coffee place still open on campus at 2 in the morning: Tim Hortons, naturally. Despite the stereotype, most only order a strong coffee. Although our night is done, there's still five hours left in the shift for Sgt Roth and the other officers of E Section.

The men and women of CSS don't reflect any of the preconceived stereotypes I had of them. Far from arrogant rent-a-cops, they're experienced professionals who legitimately enjoy and care about what they do without any sort of malicious intent. In fact, during the night, not a single ticket was handed out for any infraction.

"We're not here to screw anyone," says Officer Clay, another member of Section E. "We're here to keep [students] safe and their stuff safe." G

"We have about 30 patrol officers for 36 000 students. Many places in the US would have 200–300 officers for the same number of people."

STAYING SAFE ON CAMPUS

1 REALIZE that the campus does not exist in its own little bubble. Although it may be your home for eight months of the year, it's still in the middle of the city. Serious crimes, such as assault or robbery, rarely happen on campus, but you should still use common sense, as they are frequent in Edmonton.

2 USE the programs designed to keep you safe. Safewalk operates from 7pm–12:30am Monday through Thursday, and can be reached at 4-WALK-ME. Safewalk will escort you in or around campus. If you can't reach Safewalk, CSS will escort you across campus, although you might have to wait for a bit. The Lone Worker Program is operated by CSS. If you're working alone on campus, you can register with CSS, and they'll check up on you either via phone or in person to ensure you're okay. It runs from 10pm–7am Monday through Friday, and 24 hours on weekends and holidays and can be reached at 492-5252.

3 WALK in groups. Before you go out, tell someone where you're going and when to expect you back.

AVOIDING A TICKET

1 DON'T be a jackass. This may be self explanatory, but giving a ticket is at the officer's direction, and they have no wish to ticket a nice guy. On the other hand, they're still people, and nobody likes a jerk. Sometimes, kissing ass is better than losing \$150.

2 DON'T get nervous when the officer returns to his car. For every traffic stop, they return to the car to check for suspended licenses, provincial warrants, and to see whether you've had a run-in with them before. This is routine and completely normal.

3 DON'T PANIC if it's your first run-in with 5-0, you're almost definitely in the clear. Even if it's happened once before, you're probably still good. Just relax and wait for the officer to return with the news. It's the people who are stopped so frequently that the officers know them by name that have to be more careful



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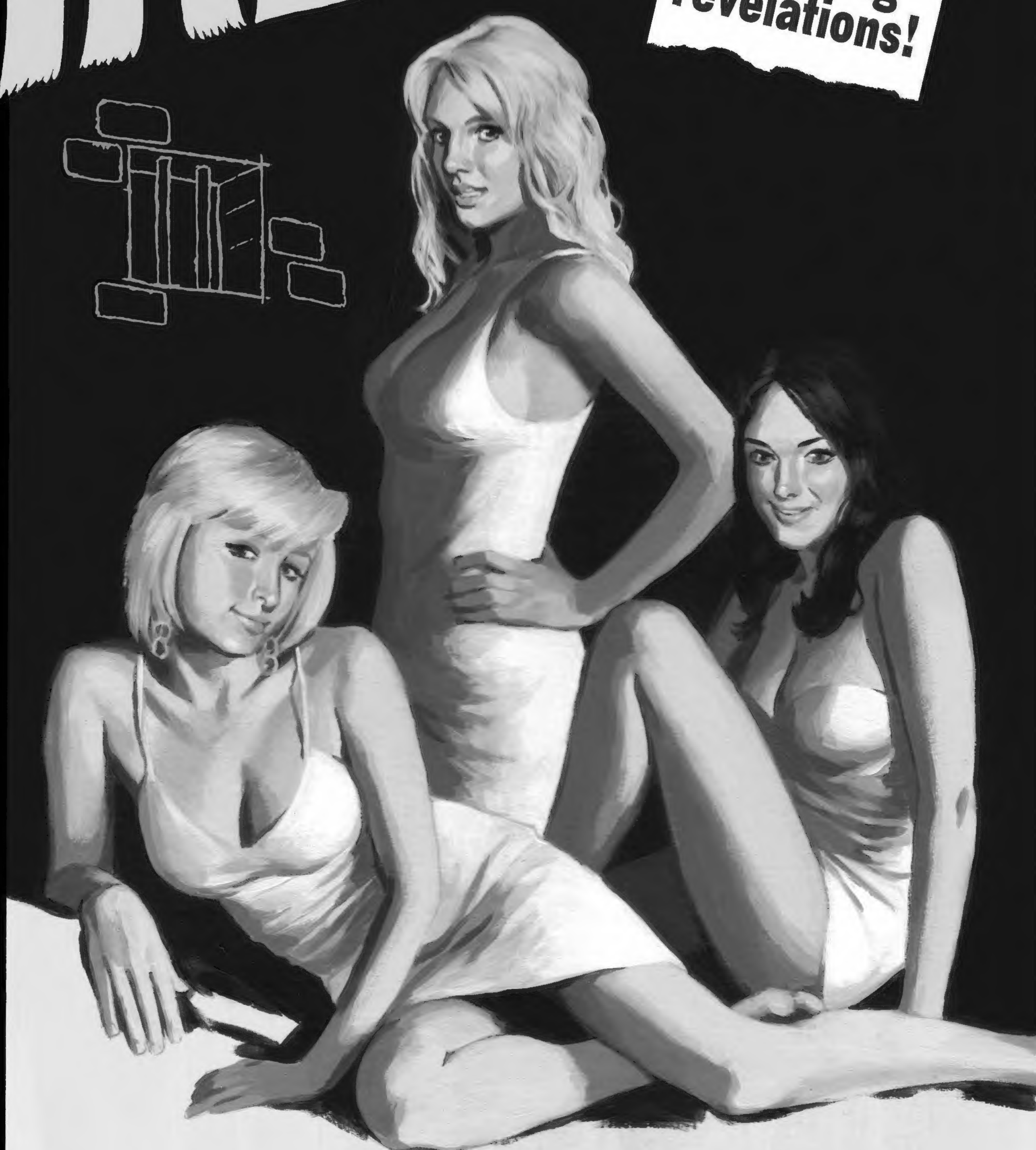
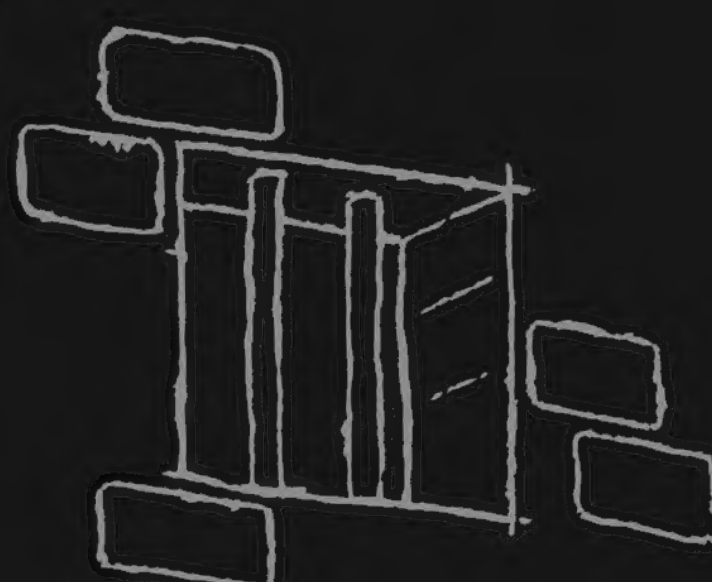
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SOCIAL INTERCOURSE



K'Naan

Friday, 5 October at 8pm
Winspear Centre

Originally from Mogadishu, Somalia, Toronto-based K'Naan combines political activism with a fusion of hip hop and rap.

He hits the Winspear this week on tour to promote his recently released album *The Dusty Foot on the Road*, and rest assured, no rhyme will be left unslung, no foot left un-Swiffered.

Eamon McGrath and the Wild Dogs

With *The Paperboxes* and *The Pack*
Saturday, 6 October at 8pm
Victory Lounge

Eamon McGrath brings his bluesy folk rock sound and lovable group of Cujos to the Victory Lounge this week to indulge you in some musical rabies, for whom you should be foaming at the mouth and cycling between euphoria and a semi-permanent catatonic delirium. But if the bassist or drummer should start drooling or staggering about, slowly back away and inform concert security; they will drag them out back and take them down, Old Yeller-style.

Becoming Jane

Opens 6 October
Directed by Julian Jarrold
Starring Anne Hathaway and James McAvoy
Garneau Theatre

Anne Hathaway has done a remarkable job over the years typecasting herself into the role of the shy-yet-attractive princess figure, sick of her upscale life and who really has more substance than one would think of someone in that position.

Finally taking on a part that may give her some actual substance, Hathaway stars in this romantic drama about the life and alleged secret romance of legendary writer Jane Austen. While there have already been allegations of historical inaccuracies—a problem rarely, if ever, seen in the period drama genre—the film chronicles Jane's relationship with Tom Lefroy, suspected by some to be Austen's inspiration for the famous Mr Darcy, who in turn was the asshole responsible for Hugh Grant.

I, Claudia

Runs 9-28 October at 7:30pm
Directed by Chris Abraham
Starring Liisa Repo-Martel
Citadel Theatre

The main actress—actually, only actress—in *I, Claudia*, asks, “Ever stare at yourself so hard that your eyes practically start bleeding? I do.”

A one-woman show performed through the swapping of masks, the story focuses on four characters, most prominently Claudia, a prepubescent girl dealing with the stresses of being a young teenager such as self-esteem issues, the divorce of her parents, and, well, puberty.

The play won the Dora Award in Toronto for Best Play in 2001, a testament to the strength of the production and the emotional impact of seeing copious amounts of sanguine blood explode out of the eye sockets of an actor's mask. It could be classified as a “must-see,” though some may find that to be of poor taste.

JOHN KMECH
Break-page champ



Weakerthans' *Reunion* shares local folklore

musicpreview

The Weakerthans

With *The Last Great Chorus*
Wednesday and Thursday, 10-11 October at 7pm
Myer Horowitz

JOHN KMECH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Throughout the greatest hits and watermarks of their past, there has always been something undeniably Canadian about Winnipeg's The Weakerthans—there's some subtle aspect of their musical philosophies in which we in the Great White North can see ourselves. Perhaps it's the haunting-yet-exquisite Prairie imagery of windswept fields of wheat or snowy highways at night trailing off into the horizon. Or it could be the quirky metaphors and amusing anecdotes by which lead singer and songwriter John K Samson shapes his sonic soliloquies.

But even after taking a four-year break, the band hasn't forgotten that the central element for their songs revolve around the emotional resonance found in the quaint tales of average Canadians; after all, the Weakerthans are just average Prairie boys themselves.

“I really hope people—especially Canadians—are able to identify with this record,” Stephen Carroll, the band's guitarist and backing vocalist, remarks over the phone.

That record is *Reunion Tour*, an album “populated by characters,” as Carroll describes it. Recorded at a studio built above a factory on the outskirts of Winnipeg during winter nights, the isolation of the process gets reflected in the record's themes of reunion, reconciliation, and

regret. But the album also features a more story-driven approach than 2003's high-concept album *Reconstruction Site*, while still offering the quartet's signature folk rock sound tinged with punk.

“This was a record we hadn't really known we were going to make. It was created in the studio,” Carroll explains. “With *Reconstruction Site*, we had a structure arranged, and we knew how the trilogy of songs that are the chapter headers would work. For this one, we didn't really have a longer look at it; we just sort of had some songs, some that we'd played and some we hadn't played. We got to the studio with [producer] Ian Blurton, and we just kept saying, ‘Well, what else is there?’”

Plenty, if the diversity of subject matter on the record gives any indication. Ever able to pull the most heartfelt sentiments out of the most mundane of subjects, the band gives common, everyday occurrences an element of mythos, taking tales about a Winnipeg bus driver's forelorn sorrow about an ex, or a dot-com businessman who loses everything, and sculpting them into local folklore.

One piece, “Hymn for a Medical Oddity,” was inspired by the story of fellow Winnipegger David Reimer. A famous case in the lore of psychology, Reimer was sexually reassigned at birth and raised as a girl. After discovering the truth and living several years as a man, he sadly committed suicide in 2004.

“John was asked to do this project by this composer who was writing a musical about David Reimer,” Carroll notes. “John composed a song, and then the composer sort of fell off the map, and we couldn't find him anymore. At some point in the recording process, John mentioned, ‘Here's this piece I wrote; it's kind of weird, but maybe we can make something around it.’”

Alongside tributes to Gump Worsley or poems about Edward Hopper paintings, the guys from The Weakerthans also tackle that classic game

of the north: curling. “Tournament of Hearts” details that most-Canadian of competitions, told fittingly by a band that has had their share of experience hurrying hard.

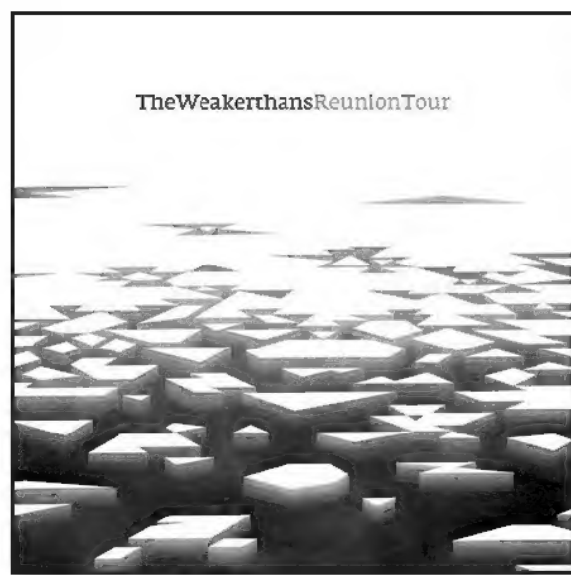
“We played on my dad's curling team for two years, myself and John,” Carroll says. “We were the worst in the league last year. Somehow we ended up sneaking in through the back door into the playoffs, going on a streak, and being tied for first in the playoffs. We ended up going to a draw-off and unfortunately, their rock ended up closer to the button. But we got second place in the B division.”

With their hometown, down-to-earth mentality rooted in our culture, it may come as a surprise to some that the band has a devout following across the world. But Carroll notes the underlying meanings in their songs are the same for fans everywhere, from Regina to Cologne.

“In our experience, we've been really surprised at how the songs resonate with people. For example, when we play ‘One Great City’ in different towns, with the lyrics ‘I hate Winnipeg,’ people will insert their hometown name and shout it back to us. We've heard ‘I hate Nottingham’ when we were playing in the UK.”

Even with the widespread esteem for their message, the parables of The Weakerthans will always find their foundation in the annals of Canadiana, taking the banal emotions hidden within our contemporary lives and turning them into balladry worth paying attention to.

“We've got songs about curling, Bigfoot sightings in northern Manitoba, a medical surgery making an anomaly of science with a tragic end—just these bizarre stories about Winnipeggers. I hope that people from the Prairies and Canada see themselves represented because I really feel the songs are written about our experiences living there.”



albumreview

The Weakerthans

Reunion Tour
Anti-

JOHN KMECH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

The Weakerthans are one of the precious few bands out there who have the ability to be emotional without being emo, and are skilled enough to be intellectual without sounding pretentious. It's a fine line to walk, and the critically acclaimed band has delivered once again with *Reunion Tour*.

John K Samson, the band's main lyricist and

songwriter, may be one of the finest musical talents of our generation. Samson wields his metaphors so efficiently in the context of his stories that every song is fluid and thought-provoking, such as the declaration that “my face is my mask” in “Elegy to Gump Worsley” or asking the listener to “make me something somebody can use” in “Utilities.”

The rest of the band are no slouches either, matching Samson's vocals with the catchy, riff-driven hooks we've come to expect, along with some progression from their past with an increased use of synthesizers and electronic sounds that actually compliment their straight-ahead rock rather than hinder it.

The most disappointing part about the album is its brevity. Clocking in at 37 minutes, the length is frustrating to fans who have been waiting for four years for more Weakerthans introspection. But if the worst part of an album is that there isn't enough of it, that's also a sign of its overall strength. Every track is solid, none are easily skipped, and the album will enjoy constant rotation through both your headphones and your head—just as we've come to expect from one of the country's most respected bands.

Despite exhausting script, *Noises Off* must go on

Even though several actors are out of commission, director Bob Baker's remaining cast does its best to sell the trying performances

theatre review

Noises Off

Runs until 14 October

Directed by Bob Baker

Starring Ashley Wright, John Kirkpatrick, and Tom Wood

Citadel Theatre

BRYAN SAUNDERS

Arts & Entertainment Staff

Noises Off, directed by Bob Baker and written by Michael Frayn, follows a simple plot: it's a play within a play, where everything that can go wrong does.

The list of scripted glitches acted out is long, ranging from set malfunctions to misplaced sardines to actors being nowhere in sight just minutes before they're supposed to be on stage, and more; it all makes for some excellent comedic fodder.

Unfortunately, there were some unscripted malfunctions during this Citadel production of *Noises Off*. Mere days before the show was to open, Citadel veteran Julien Arnold, set to play the main role of Frederick, suffered a heart attack and is currently in the hospital. Preview shows were cancelled, and Ashley Wright, another Citadel veteran, was called to fill Arnold's shoes. In just three days, Wright learned his part.

But if that wasn't enough unscripted trouble, John Kirkpatrick, cast in the role of director Lloyd Dallas, was called away on opening night due to a family emergency and the opening night had to be cancelled. But, as the saying goes, "the show must go on," and so it did.

James MacDonald the Citadel's associate artistic director was called to temporarily fill Kirkpatrick's role, and a day after the play was supposed to open, it did just that.

Considering that one of the actors had three days, and another a mere six hours to learn their respective parts, the acting is remarkable. Wright's performance as Frederick is bang on. MacDonald may have had to subtly carry a script at times, but his acting was characteristically professional. Tom Wood, playing Selson the burglar, continues to live up to the high standard he's created for himself in previous Citadel productions, and Matthew MacFadzean, in the role of Garry, carries the play to new heights with the intensity he brings to his role.

Despite the excellent acting and well-oiled technical aspects in *Noises Off*, the script itself is flawed.

Finally, making her Citadel debut is the dazzling Melissa MacPherson. MacPherson's character, Brooke, is a bit of a tart who, evidently, isn't afraid of showing serious skin. The role demands that she be part of the joke without appearing wise to it—a more difficult task than some may believe, but one that MacPherson manages to pull off successfully.

Special congratulations are due to Meredith Scott, the dialect coach for this production, as all the actors speak flawlessly in British accents. Likewise,

Leslie Frankish and Robert Thomson deserve some recognition for their work on set and costume design, and lighting design, respectively—all of these details add nicely to the play without distracting from it.

But, despite the excellent acting and well-oiled technical aspects in *Noises Off*, the script itself is flawed. Jokes return three, four, sometimes a dozen times through the course of the play and quickly lose their punch. Because of this, the audience can't help but feel bogged down at times, despite the rapid-fire energy the actors maintain on stage.

It's not just the jokes that are drawn out, but the plot as well. The first act follows the dress rehearsal a day before opening night; the second act showcases the backstage antics once the play has been running for a month; and the third act exhibits what the play has degenerated to six months later as it tours around the country.

The first act is almost a play by itself, and indeed, some audience members seemed to think that the end of the first act was actually the end of the play. The second act is convoluted and muted and, overall, not at all what it could be, and the third act would have just been déjà-vu, except the actors performed it with such chaotic energy that the play within the play still captivated the audience the third time around.

Overall, mostly because of the weak second act, *Noises Off* seems about 30 minutes too long. So while the attitude of "the show must go on" that Baker has so obviously taken to heart is admirable, there remains one lingering question: must the show go on for two and a half hours?



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Mohawk Lodge fuelling their *Wildfire*

musicpreview

The Mohawk Lodge

With *Octoberman*
Sunday, 7 October at 8pm
Blackspot Cafe

TONY KESS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Ryder Havdale has a lot of responsibility on his shoulders these days: a new Mohawk Lodge record entitled *Wildfires*, the kickoff of a cross-country tour just a week away, and the management of White Whale Records. Surprisingly though, his band and record label weren't always his first priorities.

"The Mohawk Lodge actually got started while I was playing in another band called Kids These Days, and I was the weakest singer of the bunch. At one point, they actually asked me not to sing," Havdale recalls. "I started The Mohawk Lodge as a chance to write and sing my own songs, and ended up recording them in my friend's cabin; the first record was a bit more of a solo effort."

While The Mohawk Lodge's first album, *Rare Birds*, was indeed a stripped down, folky effort, on *Wildfires*, Havdale opts for a fleshed-out, harder sound. And while he's still doing a lot of writing for the group, in no way should *Wildfires* be misconstrued as a solo endeavor; the record features guest appearances from a plethora of hipster-rockers—notably Dan Boeckner of Wolf Parade—and was produced by Darryl Neudorf, known for his work with Neko Case and the New Pornographers.

"Initially, Mohawk Lodge was my folky side-project, but now I'd say we are probably harder-rocking than



Kids These Days ever was," Havdale remarks.

"We began recording the new album in Toronto, just Darryl and I, and by the time it was over, we'd relocated out West and had all these different people dropping in to record; you'd never know who was coming in to play. At one point, we had ten people all crowded around the same microphone. So much of it was spontaneous; I don't think we'll ever be able to make that record again."

With a growing amount of support and coverage, the upcoming cross-country trek is a seminal moment in The Mohawk Lodge's growth as a band. One of the challenges Havdale and his band-mates face now is rethinking the guest-heavy, layered sound of the recorded album, and bringing it to a live show.

"During recording, we definitely found a core band, but the album has

14 people on it, and [now] there are only five of us, so I think it will be interesting to see how we improvise those missing elements," Havdale says, remaining optimistic about the challenge. "One of the great things about touring is that by the end of it, you are so well-rehearsed that you're basically a different band."

Even with so much on the go, The Mohawk Lodge have no plans to take a rest now; hot off of touring this November, they'll be heading back to the studio and beginning work on a follow-up to *Wildfires*.

"It's going to be a bit more of a live, off-the-floor effort. This will be the first time the band has worked on a record after playing so many live shows," Havdale explains. "We have some songs written already that we're probably going to work into our live set, so those will find their way onto the EP."

24/One offers amateurs the limelight

filmpreview

24/One: 24 Hour Filmmaking Challenge

Edmonton International Film Festival
Entries will be shown Saturday,
6 October at 1pm
Empire Theatres

MATT HUBERT
Arts & Entertainment Staff

"It's like Norman Jewison said in Oscar acceptance speech: 'Forget the special effects; just tell a story,'" Joshua Semchuk, 24/One's organizer, says.

For the last two years, the 24/One filmmaking challenge has afforded amateur directors, screenwriters, and actors from the Edmonton area the opportunity to try their respective hands at storytelling on the Edmonton International Film Festival's increasingly world-class stage.

Inspired by a similar contest at a long-running New York festival and Edmonton-based Film And Video Arts society's own 48-hour challenge, entrants have only one day to craft a seven minute piece based around a unifying theme. True to the challenge's rigorous form, the details to be included are provided at 11:59am Saturday morning.

"It teaches you to be organized and be prepared and forces you to make decisions in such a short time period," Semchuk explains. "The rule of thumb for bigger productions is that for every day of shooting, you

have three days of post[-production]. Here, you have three hours of post [-production] for every hour of shooting. You have to budget [time] for things like daylight, so you can imagine what you can do with a lot of time and a big budget."

"If a writer and director can demonstrate an understanding of a good storytelling arc—that is, a beginning, a middle, and an end—and communicate a director's vision from paper to screen, that's truly a piece of work."

JOSHUA SEMCHUK
24/ONE ORGANIZER

Naturally, a commitment that demands wire-tight deadlines and the penchant for forgoing sleep and good sense attracts a lot of postsecondary filmmaker hopefuls; last year, in fact, a creative team at the U of A won the coveted first place prize with their feature, *The Imagineer*. Still, the field remains diverse.

"We have people from all walks of life," Semchuk notes. "Some are younger, some are non-university, and they're of all ages, from all over. We have two entries from Calgary this year as well."

Of the 41 teams who enrolled this past Saturday, 37 submitted their finished product on Sunday afternoon. And while the pieces that Semchuk and his collection of industry pros who are serving as judges have been poring over for the last week may not appear as polished as those of the veteran filmmakers presenting at the EIFF, they are by no means less ambitious.

Rather than mimic the gloss and seemingly endless resources of studio productions, the films of the 24/One choose to be faithful to the relationship of screenwriter and director. Whatever teams can demonstrate this best, according to Semchuk, fulfill the criteria for being one of ten official selections.

"The Coen brothers are a perfect example of this—one writes, one directs, but neither is truly limited to only one. If a writer and director can demonstrate an understanding of a good storytelling arc—that is, a beginning, a middle, and an end—and communicate a director's vision from paper to screen, that's truly a piece of work. A fine piece of work."

If the shape of Edmonton's growing music scene of late has been any indication of the kinds of talents that lie in the margins of the City of Champions, one can't help but feel that Edmonton's filmmaking scene will not be far behind. With the amount of attention the 24/One is drawing by word of mouth, it appears the EIFF's success and burgeoning popularity is as much indebted to its new blood as its old guard.

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07/08 TIMMIS CENTRE FOR THE ARTS UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Bigger battles and better graphics bring *Halo 3* full circle

gamereview

Halo 3

Available Now
Developed by Bungie Studios
Published by Microsoft Games

KYLE YASINSKI
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The *Halo* games have been called the *Star Wars* of our generation; following the adventures of the Master Chief, a super-soldier fighting to save humanity from a genocidal alien civilization known as the Covenant, the story in this game is naturally the continuation and conclusion of the *Halo* Trilogy. It's somewhat unforgiving to newcomers; there's no "Last time, in *Halo 2* ..." to help the beginners to comprehend what exactly is going on. But again, chances are this isn't your first foray into the *Halo* universe.

Most gamers have already made up their minds about the *Halo* series: there are those who love it and those who hate it. With that in mind it's best to avoid the obvious points, and focus on the changes and tweaks made in to this particular installment of the series.

Halo 3 isn't the most gorgeous game to appear on the Xbox 360, but it might be the most fluid: it runs at an extremely smooth 60 frames-per-second, with virtually no slow-down—a boast few games can make. The textures and effects are nice to look at, if flat in some areas, but where the game really shines is the lighting. The use of high dynamic range lighting gives



the lights a sense of reality, with the sun's position in the game actually creating the light and shadows for the levels you play in.

Audio is by far one of the *Halo 3*'s strongest points. With a soundtrack that is rivaled only by the *Final Fantasy* series, composer Marty O'Donnell has put his heart into the third game, and it truly is a masterpiece. From the brilliant piano scores to the haunting gothic chants, the soundtrack gives the game a very epic feel; if you

closed your eyes, you would think you were listening to something as grandiose as *Star Wars* or *Lord of the Rings*.

All of these are nice; but what truly matters in the making of a great game is how it plays, and, in that category, *Halo 3* kicks ass. If you've played either of its predecessors, you will be back in familiar territory. There are new weapons and vehicles that help to keep the game fresh, but it's really the same old game you've played before—and

that's a good thing.

The new features that truly make this game stand out, however, are the Forge and Theatre modes. With the Theatre mode, you can go back and review your last 25 excursions from either single or multi-player modes, and capture screenshots and video clips to share with friends.

The mode that will really keep this game alive for another four years, however, is Forge, *Halo 3*'s built-in level editor. You can't edit

the geometry, but you can mix up item, weapon, and vehicle placement, as well as spawn-points. This allows you to create a multitude of crazy shit—a giant explosive tower that detonates every 30 seconds, for example. Your friends can also help you build, which gets pretty ridiculous with 16 people.

If you've played through the previous games, you will thoroughly enjoy this conclusion to the *Halo* Trilogy. A word of advice, too: keep watching after the credits roll.

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Ladies laying down the licks

Sue Foley talks guitar women, the '70s, and happily letting the blues inside **musicpreview**

Guitar Women
With Sue Foley, Ellen McIlwaine, Rachele Van Zanten, Roxanne Potvin, and Romi Mayes
Friday, 5 October at 8pm
Myer Horowitz

PAUL BLINOV
Arts & Entertainment Editor

If asked to name a guitarist on the spot, most people would have no trouble whizzing through the great ones. Hendrix; Van Halen; Page; the masculine surnames would spew forth effortlessly from person after person. But would anyone name a woman? Most probably wouldn't, and Sue Foley's looking to change that.

The Canadian blues-mistress—and winner of an astonishing 17 Maple Blues Awards—has banded together with four other female guitarists to highlight her gender's often overlooked contributions to the six-string world on with the Guitar Women tour. Not that she's got anything against the upstanding gentlemen of rock, mind you.

"A lot of people have seen a lot of guys play, and it's great, [but] I personally think that women have a unique message with their guitar playing, and I think it's really nice to hear that," Foley explains over the phone.

"I grew up in a guitar playing family; my father played, and my brothers played," she continues. "I also grew up in the '70s. It was a real guitar culture: the era of Hendrix and Jimmy Page and Eric Clapton. There was just a lot of guitar in music, and it seeped into my subconscious, for sure, because when I picked [a guitar] up, I just knew I was made for it. And, I wanted to play like those guys, not like the women I'd see."

The Guitar Women show originally started off as a book; after discovering that no existing page-turner covered the contributions of women to blues music, Foley took it upon herself to record their stories. She began interviewing as many female artists as she could find, penning a series of essays on the matter as well.

Despite the number of femme-guitarists she spoke to, when Foley decided to start a tour, she had no trouble zeroing in on the four women

she wanted to join her.

"Rachele, Ellen, and I have done some work in the past together, so we're familiar with each other and each other's styles, and I like the way we were able to melt our show together," Foley says. "And then Roxanne Potvin and I have been on the road most of this year in another guitar women show called 'Blues Guitar Women,' which has been through Europe and US."

"So Roxanne and I were really familiar, and it was easy to get her on the show. We all did a show together in Ottawa in November last year, the four of us. Then Romi Mayes got added [after] Rachele couldn't make a couple of the first dates."

Each of them is successful in their own right, but together, Foley hopes they can maybe give some audiences the same kind of experience that blues music originally gave her.

"I was just moved by it," she says. "I had an epiphany at a show when I was very young, and the music got inside of me. I can't really explain it; there's just something about really good blues that gets inside of you. If you open up your soul, and the blues walks in—that's just what happens."



albumreview
Bionic
Black Blood
Virgin Records

TONY KESS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

With a name like Bionic, an album titled *Black Blood*, and cover art consisting solely of menacing black shapes against a blood-red background, it would seem safe to assume that the members of this Montreal-based group are expert purveyors of some pretty terrifying black metal.

However, that assumption would be totally wrong; Bionic is more akin to hard rock bands such as Queens of the Stone Age, Built to Spill, and McClusky than they are to Bathory or Mayhem. Assisted by veteran members of the Montreal indie rock scene such as Tricky Woo and Silver Mount Zion,

Bionic busts out hook-laden, guitar-heavy stoner-rock.

But despite such guest appearances from other members of the Montreal music community, *Black Blood* suffers from a severe lack of creativity: Bionic seems content to wallow in the same overused power chords, hollow posturing, and '70s-rock-revivalist territory that have already been covered by contemporaries with much more skill and innovation.

While *Black Blood* will prove an enjoyable listen for any fan of weed-rock, punk, or metal, in the end, maybe a death-metal release would have been a little more challenging, if not more exciting, for everyone involved.



albumreview
The Birthday Massacre
Walking with Strangers
Metropolis/Repo

BEN CARTER
Arts & Entertainment Staff

On *Walking With Strangers*, the newest album from Toronto's The Birthday Massacre, there is, to put it lightly, a lot going on. Industrial, new

wave, and orchestral pop all combine on this disc—unfortunately, it's all a little too much to take in.

Hidden beneath the overbearing,

awkward production and the plodding, industrial guitars are some charming melodies and some quality dramatic elements. The vocals are adventurous and sound strong enough, but neither they nor the lyrics are particularly memorable. Certain songs, particularly "Kill the Lights," are brisk and enjoyable, but they are few and far between, and the fleeting subtle touches aren't nearly enough.

What's left is a record that sounds like "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure," but in band-form. More industrial though, and not the Wyld Stallyns. We should be so lucky.

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FILE PHOTO: MIKE OTTO

BEAR-STREET'S BACK The Bears predict a tough season ahead, as almost all the teams in Canada West—like U of L (black)—look like they're ready for a fight, but Alberta can rely on their tight defending.

Ice Bears set their sticks on successful season

The team hopes that it can get its season started right with a win against UBC and make up for last year's playoff disappointment

VICTOR VARGAS
Online Coordinator

Last season, the Golden Bear hockey team lost to the Saskatchewan Huskies at the conference final, meaning that for the first time in 11 seasons, Alberta didn't qualify for the University Cup. Now, head coach Eric Thurston has banked the team's hopes for returning to nationals on a strong defence.

"We probably have what I feel are the top two goalies in the league [Aaron Sorochan and Blake Grenier]. And when you're able to get that type of goaltending, it makes a big difference," Thurston explained.

"[We're making] a very conscious effort on playing team defence, but we also still have the gifted skill players to put the puck away when we need to."

To further strengthen the Bears' defensive capabilities, Thurston has brought defenseman Jason Fransoo to the team, whom he believes will be vital to the Bears in the early season.

"I felt we had to get better. He really stepped up and played well," he said. "He's going to be a key guy for us on the power play; he's going to play lots of minutes; he's going to play with our captain Harlan Anderson, so he's going to be a real workhorse for us."

Despite being one of the new guys,

Fransoo believes he has adjusted well during the pre-season and has formed bonds with his fellow teammates.

"Pre-season was awesome," Fransoo said. "We've been getting a lot of chemistry between me and my partner, Harlan Anderson. He's got a great one-timer shot: you go to put the puck in front of his face, and there's a good chance it will be in the back of the net."

In addition to Fransoo, the Bears have recruited centre Derrick Ryan from Spokane in the WHL. They've also added left wings Eric Hunter (who was drafted into the New York Rangers but didn't get a contract) and

the speedy Kyle Pess.

Even with the new additions, the Bears face heavy competition the likes of which they haven't seen in years. No team appears to have too large an advantage over the others: all of them appear to be evenly matched, making this year one of the tightest competitions in recent memory.

"It's going to be a very, very tough league," Thurston said. "All teams in Canada West have a shot [...] on any given night, [so] if you're not prepared to play your best game and come out and work the opposition, you are going to get beat. And that is a real treat in one aspect, but there are abso-

lutely no gimmies, and you cannot afford to take a night off."

Still, Anderson thinks that Alberta's combination of experience, defence, and rookies will make them a strong contender for nationals.

"We expect to be at the top every year," the fifth-year defenceman said. "I think that the other teams have definitely gone out and gotten the players to help them improve, but every year we are the team to beat, and everyone knows it."

The Bears play their first games of the season at the brand-new Winter Sports Centre in Vancouver on Saturday and Sunday at 7:30pm.



CHRIS PEDERSON, THE GAUNTLET

HUGSIES Alberta beat U of C last weekend and hope to do the same to U of M.

Gridiron Bears work to break even

BEN CARTER
Sports Staff

Over the past two weekends, the Bears football team has been gathering momentum, looking to put a difficult start behind them. Coming off of two encouraging victories, the Bears (2-3) are looking to make the jump to .500 and prove themselves playoff contenders. This Saturday, they couldn't be facing a more appropriate opponent for such a task, as they host the Canada West-leading Manitoba Bisons (4-0). The Bisons are coming off a bye week and a big win over Saskatchewan that solidified them in top spot in Canada West, and third in the country.

After three disappointing losses to start the season, Alberta has won two games in a row, defeating Simon Fraser and Calgary. The Bears defence was dominant in Calgary, forcing seven turnovers and allowing the Dinos into the red zone only three times all day.

Alberta head coach Jerry Friesen understands that for such a young team, the season is a constant learning process. That said, he's encouraged by the growth he's seen over the past two weeks.

"Our big focus is to make sure we've been improving, and that we're learning from experiences [...] that we can

make adjustments quickly based on what's happened out there," he said. "That's the key when you're young: you haven't had the experiences, so you've gotta learn from it real quick."

"Because their running backs are both very good, we just have to make sure we don't give them anything big."

JERRY FRIESEN
BEARS FOOTBALL HEAD COACH

Under head coach Brian Dobie, the Bisons have been a Canada West powerhouse for the past decade, and this year's edition appears no different.

"The program at Manitoba, they've always been competitive. They've always got teams that are in the top three or four in our conference," Friesen said. "[Dobie] always has a very big team. That's something we've always known them for."

Leading the Bisons attack will be running backs Karim Lowen and Matt Henry, currently fifth and sixth in Canada West with 369 and 355 yards rushing, respectively.

"They have a very balanced attack. They've got a very controlled, underneath passing game," Friesen said.

In addition to their offensive prowess, the Bisons also have the fewest turnovers in Canada West—only five in four games—a statistic that is almost certainly a byproduct of their experience. The team can boast eleven fifth-year players and 13 fourth-years.

"We just have to make sure we're patient with them, that we don't get beat with the deep one, [and] eliminate the big play—the 25-yard run, 40-yard pass—those type of things," Friesen said. "Because their running backs are both very good, we just have to make sure we don't give them anything big."

With only three games left in the season, Friesen understands the importance of the task facing his team this weekend.

"The Bisons right now are the best team in our conference. They've earned it. They are coming to our home park, and we just have to make sure we play our best football, crank it up a notch, and play like we're going to compete against the first team in Canada West."

The Bears and Bisons will kick off at 2pm on Saturday at Foote Field, and the game will also be broadcast on the Team 1260AM.



FILE PHOTO: KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

LOOK AT ME WHILE I BEAT YOU Alberta's roster is down many high-profile names, but those left want to keep winning.

Pandas lose players, keep focus

Alberta team forced to defend their national banner without some big stars

NICK FROST
Sports Staff

The Pandas hockey team will have a vastly different look from last year's national championship-winning squad when they take to the ice this weekend in the season opener against the UBC Thunderbirds. During the off-season, the Pandas lost some important faces from last year, including the goaltending tandem of Holly Tarleton and Danielle Bles, and, most notably, the top-four scorers in Canada West: Jenna Barber, Taryn Barry, Lindsay McAlpine and Tarin Podloski.

However, with this turnover comes 14 new faces to the lineup—including Alberta Female AAA-league standouts Katie Borbely and Alana Cabana—that already have head coach Howie Draper feeling confident that his team won't have as much trouble re-adjusting, and regaining that championship-winning form.

"The new players seem to have a good grasp of how to support each other offensively and defensively—they're picking up our systems very quickly," Draper said. "They seem to make good decisions both with the puck and away from the puck, and to be doing that at this stage of the year is very promising."

For those who have remained with the club from previous seasons, their roles will be of even more importance this year. Returnees like Leah Copeland, Jennifer Newton, and Rayanne Reeve will be looked to by the coaching staff to guide the newcomers comfortably into the fray,

while still initially carrying the brunt of the offensive and defensive duties.

"We need the returnees to step up into a leadership role, which we're seeing already," Draper explained. "It's so important, because we lost so many important leaders and mature players from last year, that they have fun and develop a good work ethic similar to those that have made our team successful over the last number of years."

"Everyone is tired of just practicing and playing games that are obviously useful, but don't really mean a heck of a lot."

HOWIE DRAPER
PANDAS HOCKEY HEAD COACH

"We also need a good scoring punch this year—we've lost our top four goal scorers from last year. We need them to be able to step up on the power play and in five-on-five situations and create a little more offensively than maybe they're used to."

Regardless of the turnover, though, the Pandas are looking forward to finally getting back into playing some meaningful games, along with having the opportunity to once again prove themselves worthy of being among the best in the country.

"Everyone seems to be chomping

at the bit," Draper said. "Everyone is tired of just practicing and playing games that are obviously useful, but don't really mean a heck of a lot. We're all looking forward to playing some games in conference play. I think, from a coaching standpoint, it brings a lot more out of the players: their focus is a little bit stronger, and they're just more plugged in and prepared to give everything they've got to try and get better."

Their first taste of conference action will come this weekend against UBC, a team that has also seen a lot of players from last year's squad make way for new faces this year. With that in mind, Draper has an inkling of what to expect from the Thunderbirds, but feels his team is up for the challenge no matter what kind of game UBC brings.

"It's hard to say [what to expect]—they're a very strong defensive team, and they've always been very good in that area," Draper said. "So, if history repeats itself, it'll be us trying to solve their defence. As well, they have a lot of new players on their team, so they've probably been trying to restock their offence—really, we should be prepared for anything. That first period will tell us a lot about what UBC has in store for us over not only this game, but the six games that we play against them."

The Pandas' season gets underway this Friday and Sunday at 7pm in Clare Drake Arena, though there will be a delayed puck-drop on Saturday night, as the team will be first raising last year's CIS championship banner.

SPORTS SHORTS

By Robin Collum

Short sticks, high hopes

The Pandas field hockey team (1-3-2) have another home series this weekend, this time playing host to the conference-leading University of Victoria Vikes (4-0-2). The young Pandas have had a very tough season so far. They opened the season with a huge upset win against the UBC Thunderbirds, but it's been downhill ever since then. Though not at the bottom of the Canada West pile, it's not quite a must-win weekend for them, but a couple of victories would be nice.

Alberta will be looking for strong

performances from fourth-year midfielder Erin Mason and fifth-year forward Jennifer Zwicker, in particular. As for Vikes, fans should keep an eye out for fourth-year Ali Lee and first-year keeper Kaitlyn Williams, who let in her first goal of the entire season just this past weekend.

Students crossing

As the rest of us get ready to stuff ourselves with turkey (or perhaps a non-standard alternative) and mashed potatoes, 32 of Alberta's best long-distance runners will be showing their stuff in Saskatoon at their second Canada West cross-country tournament of the season.

Heading to the U of S race are 16 Bears and 16 Pandas, against the Huskies, Calgary, Manitoba, several small

American colleges, and a few elite individual cross-country runners.

Does whatever a spider can

It says a lot about the Gateway and the people who work here that the topic of underwear was a popular one this morning. Conal made sure to wear his favourite pair of Spider-man boxer-briefs (not his only pair, mind you, just his favourite), even though they sort of clashed with the rest of his outfit.

In an interesting twist, Natalie and I unwittingly almost wore matching undies—pink boy-shorts—but hers have stripes, while mine are a solid cotton-candy sort of colour.

Ryan is wearing blue striped boxers that he hopes make him look like a Calvin Klein model, but the actual result is more reminiscent of your grandfather's ginch.

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volume XCVIII number 10 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.thegatewayonline.ca ♦ thursday, 4 october, 2007



RUTH MCGAFFIGAN

LEAFING THROUGH YOUR BOOKS Fall colours have appeared on campus in full force. That can only mean one thing: midterms are just around the corner.

By-election fills seats

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

A record number of students voted in last week's Students' Council and General Faculties Council by-elections—621, to be exact.

Craig Turner, chief returning officer for the Students' Union acknowledged that 2.5 per cent of eligible voters may not sound impressive, but he explained that he was happy with the number of ballots cast as it has never been that high.

"I was impressed with the turnout," Turner said. "I wish that we would have 100 per cent turn out, but I realize that that's not realistic, and I just hope that every year we can continue to increase voter turnout."

However, the election wasn't without its hiccups. Turner said a technical glitch required him to run through all the ballots again, but he's confident that the problem won't reoccur during the main spring elections.

"Everything's been ironed out," he said. "I can assure people that I will be doing a review into our ballot counting procedures."

Please see www.thegatewayonline.ca for official election results.

Top honour goes to nanotech researcher

JONATHAN TAVES
News Writer

He's a giant in a tiny world, but he doesn't like to admit it.

Humble, sociable, and witty, Michael Brett isn't necessarily the epitome of what comes to mind when thinking of a University Cup-winning engineering professor. But with numerous teaching awards already lining his office wall, receiving University of Alberta's highest honour for excellence in teaching and research isn't only well deserved—it seems to have been an inevitability.

Brett's university career has taken him across the country: he began at Queen's University before pursuing graduate studies in applied physics at the University of British Columbia, and from there, his interest focused on nanotechnology.

"It's a discipline that crosses many boundaries," he explains. "It goes into chemistry, physics, engineering, and medicine."

Brett was essential to the creation of the Micromachining and Nanofabrication Facility within the U of A's Faculty of Engineering. Now recognized as a leading facility in

North America, Brett credits his success with NanoFab to his timing.

"I don't know that there was a conscious decision to spearhead [NanoFab]. It was more like there I was and there was the opportunity. I think anyone in my situation would have taken advantage of it."

Since NanoFab's beginning in 1999, one of Brett's duties has been to find funding to satisfy the facility's \$1.3-million annual operating budget.

"Various levels of government and industry have put a lot of funding into my research program," he explains, adding that before his career is done, he hopes to return that investment.

"I would like to see some payback to the government and to the economy through creation of a high-tech start-up licensing of some of the work. We're trying hard to make that happen now because we're focusing more on the application [of the research]."

Instruction is also large part of the University Cup award, and Brett is no stranger to the classroom.

"Good students are enjoyable at all levels. I have a lot of interaction with the undergrad engineering physics students. They're great students, and

they have a lot of curiosity and a lot of interest in the work that I do."

However, undergrad interest in Brett's classes isn't always present.

"I had at least one person sleeping in the last class," he laughs.

Brett credits much of his project's success with the work of students.

"They are excellent. They do the research so I can take credit for it," Brett says with a wink. But those that work with him appreciate his positive, encouraging mood.

"Mike is as friendly of a boss as you can imagine," says Jason Sorge, a graduate student who has worked in the NanoFab facility since April 2004. He adds that the progress of the lab is a symptom of the easy-going, accessible relationship Brett maintains.

"There is lots of opportunity provided here," Sorge continues. "No one feels intimidated asking for help. There is a real sense of camaraderie."

However, there was no big celebration at NanoFab for the University Cup.

"I'm sure Mike is really proud of the award. Yet, at the same time, doesn't want everyone to make a big deal out of it," Sorge says.

The recognition is yet another honour for Brett, but he continues to



KYLER ZELENY

BIG VICTORY FOR SMALL-SCALE PROF University Cup winner Michael Brett shows off the prize he received for his research in nanotechnology.

look to the future and all the potential that lies ahead.

"Something might happen tomorrow that will be a complete surprise and lead to an opportunity for development," he says, adding that the life of a senior research officer at one

of the nation's leading nanotechnology centres isn't all micro fibres and thin-films.

"You have to have balance in your life. I'm a great proponent of that," Brett says with a smile. "I'm off to hike in Jasper this weekend."

Inside

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Campus ride-along

No unaffiliated ne'er-do-wells had to be escorted off campus during the making of this feature.

FEATURE, PAGES 10-11



Canadian sing-along

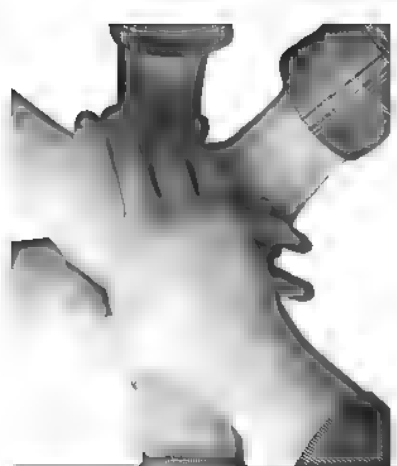
The Weakerthans are back with another album filled with quintessential Canadiana.

A&E, PAGE 13

Turkeycide!

The *Gateway* won't be around on Tuesday, as we'll be recovering from massive doses of tryptophan and pumpkin pie. But fear not, as we'll return with an issue on Thursday, 11 October.

You can't spell 'crazy whacko' without 'coach'

SPORTS
STAFFGroup
Commentary

If it were perfect world, all public figures would be even-tempered, soft-spoken role models; shining beacons of reasonable behaviour there to show us how to act under trying circumstances. But, since it isn't, we might as well make the best of what we have. And that means using famous sports figures' crazy-ass antics for our personal entertainment. Coaches and managers are particularly known for having hair-trigger tempers, and luckily for us, when they blow a gasket, it's usually caught on tape. Read our favourite freak-outs, then see them for yourself online at thegatewayonline.ca.

Justin Bolivar

Picture a typical NBA coach and you likely envision someone who exudes toughness and grit unparalleled by any coach in professional sports. The likes of Phil Jackson, Pat Riley, and Sam Mitchell are scary enough to make anyone back down in a fight, but there's one NBA coach who always seems to get caught in the middle of a brawl. This bench boss looks more like the water boy than the brains of the operation. This coach is Jeff Van Gundy.

It was during the intense Miami Heat–New York Knicks playoff rivalry of the late '90s: tensions boiled over

in 1998, when Heat centre Alonzo Mourning punched Knicks forward Larry Johnson in the fourth game of their first-round Eastern Conference series. Mourning's punch triggered a bench-clearing brawl on the hardwood at Madison Square Garden with both sides going after each other. But one detail seemed out of place in this fight: Van Gundy clutching onto Mourning's leg in an attempt to pry him away from Johnson. Of course, the only thing he accomplished here was shining the floor because Mourning didn't even notice he was there. The only thing Van Gundy got out of this was a gash to the forehead and some stitches.

Evidently, this action wasn't enough, for three years later he would be at it again, getting between Knicks forward Marcus Camby and Spurs forward Danny Ferry. He tried to separate the two during a heated exchange; however, Camby would have none of it and threw a right hook at Ferry. This didn't connect with Ferry but instead with Van Gundy's balding forehead, causing an excessive amount of bleeding and more stitches.

Nick Frost

While it may not have been at wacky as some of the other examples of coaches straight-up losing it, former Oilers bench boss Ron Low's immensely underrated tirade on former Avalanche coach Marc Crawford during the 1997/98 playoffs stands out to me. I can still remember watching the game and seeing Low so beet-red with anger that he looked like he was going to

suffer an embolism.

It was 2 May, 1998, and the Oilers were up 2–0 in game six against the Avs—who had a 3–2 lead in the series and, as we all know, ended up losing 4–3 to the Oil (clearly, Monica Lewinsky wasn't the only one blowing around that time). With the game near conclusion, Crawford sent in goons Jeff Odgers and Warren Rychel against a smaller Oilers line that featured Mats Lindgren and the recently concussed Dean McAmmond.

Low, however, took exception to this, and tried to take matters into his own hands by jumping the glass between the benches and laying a few haymakers on Crawford's coiffed pretty-boy ass.

The players restrained him, but they couldn't stop him from throwing his gum at Crawford from across the glass, flipping him the bird, and dropping a few F-bombs that could be easily noticed by the CBC-watching audience at home. It's not so much what he did, or tried to do, that stands out to me; it's the fact that I don't think I've ever seen anyone so incredibly infuriated like that in my life—far less a stocky, balding man in a grey suit with one hell of a mustache.

Marc Affeld

No discussion of this nature would be complete without a mention of the walking meltdown that is Bob Knight.

Consider, if you will, that despite being one of the most successful basketball coaches of all time—indeed, the winningest NCAA Division I head

coach in history—Knight will likely be most remembered by many for his often-violent and almost always profane outbursts on and off the court instead. The now-infamous 1988 game in which Knight tossed his chair across the court in protest of a technical foul called on his Indiana Hoosiers is actually one of his least controversial incidents.

The list of worse things he's done is extensive. In 1979, he was charged, and convicted in absentia, of assaulting a police officer while at the Pan American Games in Puerto Rico. In a 1988 television interview with Connie Chung, when asked how he handles stress, Knight replied, "I think that if rape is inevitable, relax and enjoy it." In 2000, he was fired from Indiana University for allegedly grabbing and injuring the arm of a student while lecturing him on respect after the student addressed him by saying, "Hey, Knight, what's up?"

Over the years, Knight has also repeatedly been accused of kicking, choking, head-butting, and otherwise physically, and verbally, assaulting his own players.

Yet, in spite of all of these incidents, Knight continues to coach Division I basketball. Somehow, he consistently manages to brush off scandal after scandal by invoking the "Bobby Knight is just being Bobby Knight" defence.

Maybe my personal lack of respect for Knight stems from the fact that I wasn't even born the last time he lead a team to a NCAA championship—or perhaps it has something to do with Knight once claiming at a press conference that sports journalism is "one or two steps above prostitution."

Paul Owen

Oklahoma State football coach Mike Gundy's rant at a reporter over what he saw as unfair criticisms levelled at his quarterback really should go down as the best coach tirade ever. Unlike other situations where a bench boss flipped, Gundy's shouting spree at *Oklahoman* columnist Jenni Carlson served not just as a glimpse into how crazy one man could be; it was also the best recruiting video his Cowboys could have ever have hoped for.

Forget about the fact that Gundy crossed many lines in his criticisms of Carlson—most notably saying that her childlessness was the reason she wasn't afraid either to bring up the relationship between the team's embattled quarterback Bobby Reid and his mother or to call him a wimp about it. Gundy did what every struggling player wants his coach to do: he stood up for Reid, telling reporters that it wasn't okay to criticize beyond what happens on the field, and demanding they come after him instead because he's "a man" and "40." Additionally, he managed to deflect all attention away from their mistakes on the field.

High-school players all over the Big 12's recruiting base should flock to Gundy, perhaps the most visible "players' coach" ever. Also, OSU claims that the vast majority of correspondence the University has received about the matter has been in favour of Gundy's actions. So not only should it make his team richer in talent, but it will also probably make his school richer. How many other coaches can boast that their temper tantrum did that?

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Women deserve better than the likes of Thomas and the Garden

ROBIN
COLLUMSports
Commentary

As sports editor, and one of only two females on the *Gateway* editorial staff, I often complain about the often extremely graphic “dudeversations” that I’m forced to overhear, not to mention having to deal with some male athletes who keep their eyes significantly below my face during interviews, if you catch my drift.

That said, it’s nothing compared to what some women have to deal with in the workplace. Women like Anucha Browne Sanders, who was vice-president of marketing and business operations for the New York Knicks. On Wednesday, a jury ruled in her favour, bringing to an end a three-week-long sexual harassment trial she filed against the Knicks organization, Madison Square Garden (MSG), and Knicks President and head coach Isiah Thomas.

According to Browne Sanders, Thomas treated her terribly when he was hired by the Knicks in 2003, discriminating on her because of her gender and referring to her as a “bitch” and a “ho.”

The married father of two eventually changed his opinion of her, however, and began treating her terribly in a different way: making unwanted advances, trying to kiss her, and repeatedly inviting her to get to know him better with a few “off-site” visits. When she complained to her bosses, and asked co-workers to back up her

“To a certain extent, one expects sexism and crudeness to exist in an all-male environment like, say, a locker room. It’s hardly ideal, but it’s private, and not particularly harmful as long as it stays within those walls. It’s basically more of a bonding exercise than anything else.”

claims, she was fired for “incompetence.” So she took them all to court for harassment and wrongful dismissal—and rightfully so.

The fact that MSG was held responsible for their actions is fantastic—they’re being forced to pay \$8.6 million in reparations for condoning a hostile work environment and retaliation, while chairman, James Dolan, is on the hook for another \$3 million for being the one who fired her and for doing so in such a childish and petty manner. It seems slightly ridiculous that Thomas wasn’t found liable for any money; regardless, the whole affair has brought the issue of treatment of women in male-dominated workplaces back to the front of peoples’ minds.

To a certain extent, one expects sexism and crudeness to exist in an all-male environment like, say, a locker room. Though it’s hardly ideal, it’s private and not particularly harmful as long as it stays within those walls. It’s basically more of a bonding exercise than anything else. But it’s when that sort of attitude leaves the locker room and enters a place of work that it becomes completely unacceptable. In the case of Browne Sanders and the Knicks, it seems that blatant sexism was, if not actually encouraged, at least accepted; otherwise, Browne Sanders would never have been fired.

It’s outrageous that, in this day and

age, people would still be pulling this crap. This isn’t the ‘50s; the moustachioed executive can’t just pinch his secretary’s behind and expect just a giggle in response. It seems as well that these sort of incidences are especially prevalent in the sports world; hearing the sort of insults Browne Sanders had to endure inevitably brings to mind the Don Imus scandal earlier this year. Though of course he was mainly being a racist prick when he called the Rutgers University women’s basketball team “nappy-headed hos” on the radio, he was also being a sexist pig.

It’s about time that women in business, sports, and the business of sports stood up for themselves and their place in their professions. Browne Sanders deserved her job with the Knicks as much as any of her co-workers did; a college basketball star herself with Northwestern University, and an experienced marketer who had been with the Knicks longer than Thomas has, it was unacceptable that she was made to feel uncomfortable at work.

Women shouldn’t have to play along, act like “one of the boys,” or put up with bullshit like Thomas was dishing out. Browne Sanders did us all a favour by standing up for herself, and sent a message to teams and boardrooms everywhere that women belong in the world of sports, and deserve respect.

... And so do the Knicks and their fans

Even Kobe’s post-alleged-rape behaviour better than Thomas’ present attitude

NICK
FROSTSports
Commentary

As anyone I’ve ever discussed basketball with can tell you, I generally don’t care for Kobe Bryant, be it his attitude, his ball-hogging abilities, or his “extracurricular endeavours,” if you catch my drift. Having said that I’m always one to give credit where credit is due, so here goes: at least Kobe had the balls to show some sort of remorse for his sexual wrongdoings, even if it was just the infidelity and not the accused rape.

Whether it was genuine or just a well-scripted template of an acceptance speech, at least he came out and said something that showed even a glimmer of self-reflection and the realization that he had done something wrong, and was apologetic towards his wife for having done so.

On the other hand, with the recent scandal surrounding New York Knicks head coach Isiah Thomas, I’m absolutely astonished at the completely nonchalant attitude that he has adopted towards the whole matter—despite having been found guilty within the first two days of deliberation of sexually harassing former

Knicks executive Anucha Browne Sanders—by further insulting her by publicly stating that he was thinking entirely about basketball and his team’s upcoming season during the whole three-week trial.

To walk around and exude confidence that you are innocent during the trial is one thing, but to come out and essentially say that calling someone a “bitch” (among other things) and making sexual advances in the workplace isn’t important compared to coaching a team that will probably, once again, finish outside of the Eastern Conference playoff race is absolutely baffling.

Even worse than that, however, is the attitude of the corporate parties involved, whether directly or indirectly, in this situation. The Knicks have yet to lay down any law on either Thomas or Madison Square Garden chairman James Dolan, and the NBA has refused to even comment on the matter. I mean, this issue may not be really about basketball, but they should be sending some sort of warning signal that this kind of behaviour won’t be tolerated. Mark Bell of the Toronto Maple Leafs committed a hit-and-run outside of the hockey world, and faces a 15-game suspension that began Wednesday night.

But, of course, the commissioner wouldn’t want step on the toes of the NBA team owners—particularly a conglomerate as large, wealthy, and

domineering as the New York Knicks, Cablevision, and MSG group—because they don’t want to suffer the backlash of the owners from any potential revolts. Instead, they put forward a terrible image to the people who support their game. Double-edged sword, I suppose, but loyalty to the NBA fans should really win out here over the businessmen that keep the machine well-oiled.

Thomas also stated that, in his very humble opinion, the trial and conviction wouldn’t be a distraction to his team come pre-season play. Think that something of this magnitude won’t be a distraction—and probably having false hope that this will just go away quickly enough—is just completely irresponsible, not to mention unfair to his players. It’s bad enough that the Knicks have had some mediocre seasons in the past few years, and that their divisional rival Boston Celtics loaded up their roster with three times the star power this offseason, without having to suffer another potential setback in their quest to make it back to the playoffs. The players want to win and to be able to do it in a town as crazy about their basketball team as New York City.

Isiah is running the public’s perception of him into the ground, and will continue to do so until he pulls a Kobe Bryant by coming out and showing some form of remorse not only for what he has done, but what he has put the people around him through.

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"24 drummers? Why so many?"

"I've heard that cricks dig them, Sir."

The Commander grunted. "Fine. Get them to start drumming a march, and we advance on their position."

There was a long pause before the second-in-command spoke up. "I'm afraid they don't know any marches, Sir. They only do Journey songs, I'm afraid."

"Damn them! Fine, get them to start with 'Any way You Want It.' Tonight, we move out."



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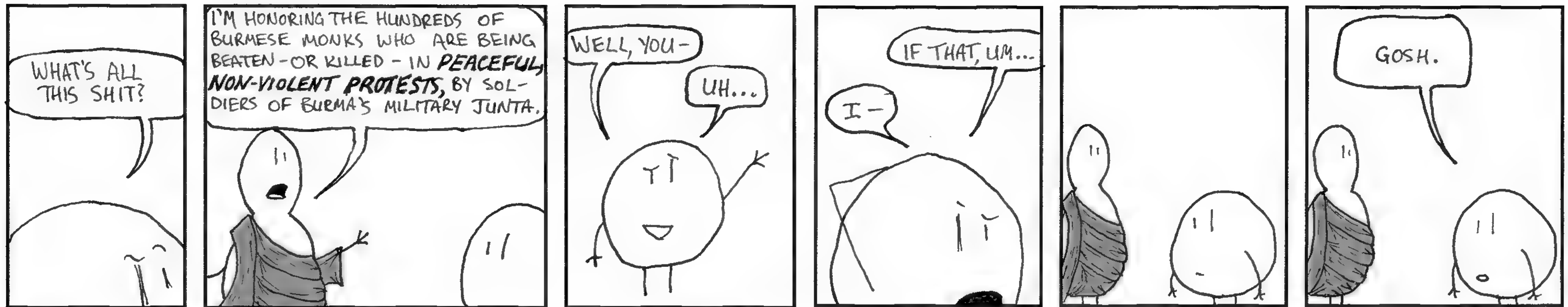


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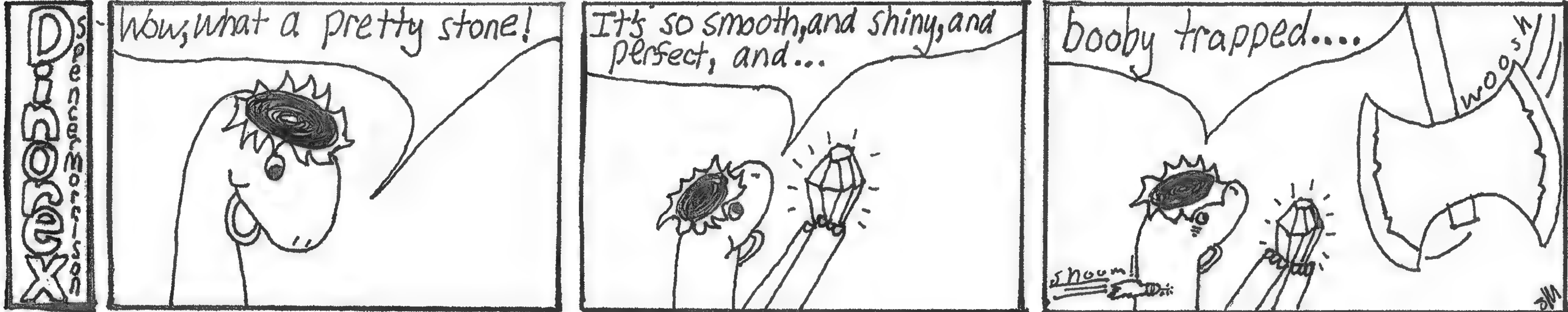
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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super CoolScan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images. An Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files. All content are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENICE, Joanna, Kepler, and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we owe her dearly, though not in that way. The Gateway's games of choice are Legend of Zelda: Phantom Hourglass and Jam Sessions.

contributors

Jonathan James Lee, Sateet Thomas, Wagner Bryan Saunders, John Kmech, Bryan Saunders, Tony Kess, Matt Hubert, Kelsey Tanasiuk, Ben Carter, Kye Zeeny, Ruth McGaffigan, Tara Stegitz, Krystina Sulatycki, Paul Knoechel, Caroline LaOre, Elizabeth Gagnon, Lettner Kelsey, Tanasiuk, Chris Krause, Fionn Galloway, Spencer Morrison, John Gagnon.

“ This is prime time to get moving on student housing for future years.

COUNCIL FORUM

Written by Ryan Heise,
Deputy News Editor*Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6pm. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 16 October, where free food will be provided for all attendees.*

TABLING AND POSTPONING

Two major issues—the formation of a dedicated fee unit (DFU) to support student groups, and repealing councillor remuneration—were scheduled to be debated at the 2 October meeting of Council but were ultimately put off to later dates.

President Michael Janz, who originally moved for the creation of the DFU, introduced a new motion to table the original motion due to the possibility that the University may give a contribution to Student Group Granting. Janz explained that tabling would allow Council to address the issue in the future if the University doesn't offer

any funding. No real debate occurred, and the motion to table passed.

Janz also originally moved the repealing of Bill 1, which deals with councillor remuneration, but argued that following a very lengthy debate on the subject at the 24 July meeting of Council, the issue had been “beaten to death” and would be better addressed as a budget principle at a later date. A wide majority of councillors agreed with this sentiment, and the motion to postpone succeeded. Prior to the 2006/07 academic year, sitting on Council was a volunteer position.

QUESTION PERIOD

VP (Academic) Bobby Samuel was asked about the status of Bear Scat. He explained that he and SU general manager Bill Smith held a conference call with Steve Kirkham recently to try to hammer out details on a deal to keep the system operational. Samuel further stated that some movement had been made, but that Kirkham will return to Edmonton in mid-October, and they will discuss the future of Bear Scat in more detail then.

VP (Operations & Finance) Eamonn Gamble responded to a question regarding the use of One Cards in RATT and Dewey's by explaining that both establishments accept it as a method of payment.

MICHAEL JANZ
SU President

—on the importance of student housing advocacy

Another query aimed at Gamble asked about security cameras being installed in SUB. He said that eleven cameras were going to be situated to cover the major entrances and arteries of the building, and were installed in response to vandalism in the building. He finished by explaining that the cameras didn't pose any privacy issues, as they would only be reviewed if a crime takes place.

VP (Student Life) Chris Le was asked about a new project he is working on to attempt to get microwaves placed in more areas around campus. Specifically, Le said he would like to see microwaves in libraries and larger social areas on campus. He is currently in talks with the University to try to accomplish this, but is dealing with issues such as adequate cleanup and security.

Gamble responded to a question about the opening of the SUB quiet room following a fire and subsequent flooding of the space during the summer. He was pleased to report that some furniture has already been moved back in, and that the space would re-opened by the end of the week.

ATTENDANCE

The following councillors were absent during the 18 September meeting: Gauthier (Pharmacy) and Farhat (Science).

CORRECTIONS

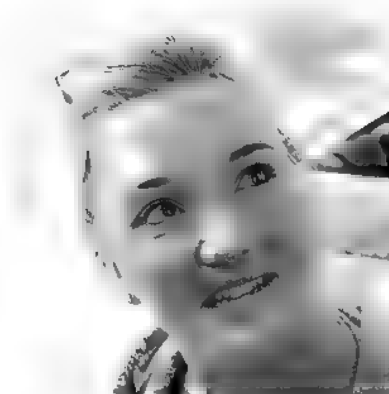
In the Tuesday, 25 September issue of the Gateway, the article “Graduate degrees on the rise” by Askaran Singh contained two factual errors.

In the final paragraph, Graduate Students' Association President Julie Charchun was quoted as saying: “We are very concerned about the University's vision of bringing 25 000 graduate students to the University in the next four years.” The actual number of graduate students the University would like to bring in is 2500. However, aside from the numerical typo, Charchun's message is correctly presented.

Additionally, from the same issue, in the “Councillor Forum” feature on pages 6–7, Ward 5 candidate Brent Michalyk was wrongfully named as “Brett Michalyk.” The Gateway apologizes for any confusion this may have caused.

Lastly, the Gateway would like to apologize to its readers for the phoned-in design of this corrections box. We are honestly so fucking sorry.

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
Steve Smith and Krystina Sulatycki**Mike Vandenham**
Mechanical Engineering VI**Nathan Lynch**
Mining Engineering II**Kaitlyn Korol**
Engineering I**Lauren Demers**
Physical Education I

“I think they'll do okay. Better than last year, hopefully, but I don't have high hopes just because they're coming out of a bad situation. They haven't really set themselves up well.”

“Pretty good. They got a defenseman who can play in Sheldon Souray.” [“Are you concerned about his even strength goal differential?”] “No, plus/minus doesn't mean anything on the power play, and that's where he got all his goals, so that's why his plus/minus was so bad. And they got some new forwards, and hopefully the rookies will be good.”

“We're going to do good because we have Roli as our goalie.” [“We did last year too.”] “Yeah, but he's better this year because he has more confidence. He had a really good training camp.”

“I think they'll do okay, probably not as bad as last year. They've got some new players, so I'm hoping they'll do a little bit better. [The loss of Ryan Smyth] might hurt us, but last year we lost Pronger, and that devastated us. This shouldn't be as bad.”

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Tools may dig up historical clues

THOMAS WAGNER
News Staff

A University of Alberta anthropologist has found thousands of ancient tools and artifacts left by early man in Iringa, Tanzania.

In 2006, associate professor Pam Willoughby, along with graduate students Pastory Bushozi and Katie Bittner, found 182kg of historical artifacts such as pottery, animal bones, and, most importantly, stone tools.

Willoughby first went to Tanzania in 2005 in search of rock shelters that ancient peoples would have used as instant housing over 200 000 years ago. She had hoped that these caves might contain the garbage left behind by our ancestors thousands of years ago, but when she arrived, she found artifacts literally covering the floor.

"The surface had pieces of pottery and iron from early smelting on it. [It] was just littered with artifacts," Willoughby explained. "[However], my permit wasn't for [that] region, but the next region over, so even though I saw stuff and took lots of pictures, I couldn't collect anything."

When she returned the next year, her intent was just to prove that artifacts were there so that she could get a grant and return later. However, she found so much in the 30 days of digging that another trip back has been put on hold until all of the artifacts could be properly documented and studied. This is due in large part to the stringent rules of the Tanzanian government, which still owns the artifacts even though Willoughby found and collected them.

"We have [the artifacts] on loan for, in theory, as long as we want, but the understanding is that we don't go back



TARASTIEGLITZ

A ROCKY PAST A massive find of ancient tools may unlock humans' past.

to get more until we return [the ones we've already taken]," Willoughby explained.

The artifacts that Willoughby brought back to the U of A range in age from over 100 000 years old—the Middle Stone Age—to about 3000 years old, in the period known as the Iron Age. Although the focus of the study is on Middle Stone Age artifacts, the newer ones, because they lie on top, must also be collected and analyzed.

Through her work, Willoughby hopes to answer two pressing issues: first, how the tools of the Later Stone Age emerged from the larger, earlier type; and second, what prevented the

tools' makers, our ancestral *Homo sapiens*, from leaving Africa.

According to Willoughby, although they had the technology to make these tools more than 100 000 years ago, they didn't emerge from Africa until only 40–60 000 years ago.

With those questions in mind, Willoughby hopes to return next year to collect and study more samples and continue her work answering the questions of the past.

"In theory, we're looking for the magical, hypothetical site where [Middle Stone Age tools] change into [Later Stone Age tools]," Willoughby explained. "I think one of our sites, Mlambalasi, could be that site."

ICC needs more recognition—Goldstone

LEE SATVEIT
News Writer

The survival of international justice depends on the will of leading nations, according to Richard J Goldstone, former Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa and former prosecutor of the UN International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia.

Goldstone spoke at the 19th annual McDonald Lecture, held in the Law Centre on 27 September. His speech, entitled "The Future of International Justice," provided insights into the development of international criminal law and discussion of the challenges that lie ahead in addressing it.

Identifying the key problems facing the International Criminal Court (ICC), Goldstone said that "[the Court] hasn't got its own police force or own army—it has to rely on governments to support it." Later, he emphasized that the lack of political will and the failure of leading nations to recognize the Court were other vital and related concerns.

After expressing disappointment that the UK and France (both parties to the Rome Statute, which created the Court) failed to even mention the ICC in their calls for action in Sudan, Goldstone noted that "unless the political will can be mustered in that regard, credibility of the Court is being weakened."

"[We need to] put pressure on countries to recognize the Court," he said, noting that the concept of international criminal justice hasn't been with us long.

"Until Nuremberg, there was no such thing as international criminal justice. It didn't exist."

Goldstone added that prior to Nuremberg, war criminals enjoyed effective and concrete impunity.

"In their own countries, they were unfortunately regarded more often than not as war heroes, and not as war criminals. Nuremberg ignited a flame and a hope for an international criminal court. Unfortunately, the Cold War intervened."

"Until Nuremberg, there was no such thing as international criminal justice. It just didn't exist."

RICHARD J GOLDSTONE
INT'L CRIMINAL LAW EXPERT

Goldstone pointed out that it wasn't until 1993 that an ad hoc international criminal court was established in the former Yugoslavia, and explained that it was established due to European anti-war sentiment following World War II.

Goldstone said that in 1994, when Rwanda requested a court to be set up in their country, the UN Security Council could not have denied Rwanda the same service that was provided in the former Yugoslavia.

"It is impossible to understand international criminal justice without recognizing the politics that is its mother and father. Without politicians, without politics, there wouldn't be international criminal courts—they wouldn't get financed, they wouldn't be established in the first place," Goldstone said, noting

the great advances and benefits that have been achieved in international criminal justice.

He said that in recent years, gender-related crimes such as systematic mass-rape have finally been recognized as being criminal, and not just an uncontrollable aspect of war.

"Systematic mass rape has been used as a form of warfare for thousands of years, but it was never recognized as a crime," Goldstone said. "The reasons are obvious—these laws were written by men. [They] assumed and accepted that rape and plunder was something that automatically happened in warfare."

But that has changed, and Goldstone said this was due in no small part to the ad hoc tribunals formed in Yugoslavia and Rwanda—both precursors to the ICC.

Goldstone went on to say that thanks to the creation of the ICC, the protection of civilians has been extended to civilians in civil wars, rather than just civilians involved in wars between nations. In Goldstone's opinion, the existence of the ICC can create real deterrence.

"It is difficult to prove deterrence," Goldstone noted. "How do you prove what *would* have happened but for these tribunals having been set up?"

Goldstone ended his speech praising Canada and the nations of Scandinavia, whose foreign policy he deemed as being based on morals rather than on commercial concerns. There are currently 104 nations party to the Rome Statute, but Goldstone emphasized that two important democracies—the US and India—haven't ratified it.

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Study finds factories a factor for mercury levels in fish

BRYAN SAUNDERS
News Staff

Summer is coming to a close, but the mercury is still pretty high—not in any thermometers, but in the seafood we consume.

According to a new study by an international contingent of researchers, the mercury showing up in fish comes from factory emissions produced on dry land. The group of 24 North American researchers includes Vincent St Louis, a University of Alberta professor of watershed biogeochemistry; and Jennifer Graydon, a PhD candidate in biological sciences.

St Louis explained that previously, there was no study definitively linking higher levels of mercury in the atmosphere to higher levels of mercury in fish. There are, as he explained, other factors involved.

"For example, climate change. If a lake's warming up, it increases the microbial activity that converts the [type of] mercury in rain to the [type

found in fish]," St Louis said. "So [previously], legislators could have said, 'Well, it's climate change causing this mercury problem in fish, so we don't really need to regulate how much mercury we're putting out into the atmosphere.'"

However, St Louis explained that the results of this new study finally link atmospheric mercury emissions to mercury in fish.

"When you burn coal, coal has a lot of mercury in it. So, you burn coal to produce energy, for example, at Lake Wabamun. The mercury goes up in the atmosphere," St Louis said, adding that this elemental mercury in the atmosphere then precipitates into a form of ionic mercury. This rain then enters into lakes and streams, where the ionic mercury it contains is converted to methyl-mercury by bacteria found at the bottom of these lakes. From there, the methyl-mercury finds its way into algae, then into fish, and finally into humans that eat these fish.

To prove this theory, the group of researchers went to the Experimental

Lakes Area in northwestern Ontario. They then chose a lake with low levels of mercury, and with special permission, put approximately one teaspoon of inorganic mercury into this lake.

"What we found was that the [inorganic] mercury that we put in the lake directly showed up in the fish rapidly [in an organic form]."

VINCENT ST LOUIS
U OF A BIOGEOCHEMISTRY PROF

To make sure that any rise in methyl-mercury levels in fish in this lake was due to this increase in inorganic mercury and not any other factors, they used an isotope that they could easily identify later on.

"What we found was that the

[inorganic] mercury that we put in the lake directly showed up in the fish rapidly [in an organic form]," St Louis said.

And as Graydon pointed out, mercury does quite a bit of harm in living organisms.

"[It mostly has] neurological effects: stumbling, slurred speech, blurred vision, [and], in the very worse scenarios, total neurological death," she said.

As a result, Health Canada advises people to limit their consumption of fish known to have high mercury levels to no more than once per week.

However, according to St Louis, despite the fact that ingesting mercury has long been known to be harmful, mercury emissions have remained, until now, either unregulated or only voluntarily regulated. He said that this is because there was previously little proof of mercury emissions from factories affecting mercury levels in the human diet.

St Louis now hopes that, in light of these results, the lack of regulation will change not only in Canada but

in the United States and elsewhere, adding that mercury emitted from one country often ends up in the lakes and oceans of another.

"Politicians used to say, 'We can't enforce these regulations because there is no direct link,'" St Louis said. "Now they can't say that because there is a direct link. Now it becomes the argument of, 'If we do remove mercury from the emissions, it will cost all this money and cost all these jobs.'"

"In the acid rain days, they actually said the exact same thing: 'This is going to cause a loss of jobs.' It didn't. It really didn't. It actually pays off for industry to lower their emissions."

St Louis suggested that one factory could benefit by selling their emission credits to another factory, and that capping mercury emissions might even pay off in other ways.

"If you start looking at health benefits and things like that, those are big payoffs that are never accounted for in statements of the cost associated with putting in regulations."



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Study finds int’l students hurt most by plagiarism regulations

RITA CANT
The Link

MONTREAL (CUP)—Bilal Hamideh, the coordinator of the Concordia Students’ Union advocacy centre, estimates that about 300 students come to the the centre for defense of plagiarism charges each year—50 per cent of whom are from international backgrounds.

Culture has a big role to play in how we define and identify acts of plagiarism, and a new study from a Concordia University professor is providing some concrete numbers to prove it.

The ongoing study, which began in 2006, is the first to try to quantify cultural differences in how we define plagiarism. Eighty student volunteers were first asked to identify what they would call acts of plagiarism from a line-up of different scenarios.

“Some situations were obvious plagiarism, some were not,” explained Andrew Ryder, a psychology professor and the survey’s creator.

Especially in ambiguous scenarios, he said, “international students were much less likely to see the scenarios as plagiarism.”

After completing the survey once, students were given a copy of Concordia’s official definition of plagiarism and asked to repeat the survey.

“On clear cases of plagiarism, after reading the University’s policy [definition], 100 per cent of Canadian-born students recognized plagiarism, and only 80 per cent of international students did,” Ryder said.

On more ambiguous questions, the Canadian group correctly identified plagiarism 60 per cent of the time, and the non-Canadian group had a 40 per cent success rate.

“Sixty per cent for the Euro-Canadians ain’t so great either,” Ryder said, but added that the 20 per cent gap between the two groups is a big

difference and cause for concern. “International students as a group are at a disadvantage,” he said. “I’m now more convinced that telling people ‘plagiarism is bad’ isn’t enough.”

According to Ryder, the results show that policing efforts will continue to catch unsuspecting plagiarizers until students are educated—well in advance of their assignments—about what constitutes plagiarism.

The preliminary results of the study coincide with the beginning of the University’s academic integrity campaign, which was launched after the academic code of conduct was revised over the summer.

“This whole idea of plagiarism and [that] you can’t use someone else’s ideas—it’s a Western concept.”

IVONNE LACHAPELLE
CONCORDIA SU ADVOCACY CENTRE

Ryder’s findings will be presented to the revisers of the academic code of conduct in October. Until then, the study will continue gathering information to increase the sample size.

The study was born out of a request for quantitative information about the problem from one of Ryder’s own students, Ivonne Lachapelle.

Lachapelle, who also works at the advocacy centre, said that international students form a large portion of students seeking advocacy for plagiarism charges.

“The University says because it’s written in the academic code of conduct, it’s the responsibility of students to know [it]. From this research, we see a lot of students don’t know.”

“This whole idea of plagiarism and

[that] you can’t use someone else’s ideas—it’s a Western concept,” she said.

The office of the Provost recently completed a week of intensive outreach to promote awareness about the definitions and penalties of cheating.

“It comes from the last senate meeting, which approved the new code of conduct with the understanding that we would work with the CSU and students to promote academic integrity and inform students of their responsibilities,” explained Danielle Morin, Concordia Vice-Provost (Academic Programs).

Lachapelle explained that Concordia’s policies often don’t take the intent behind committing an academic misconduct into consideration, and that it can be a point of contention between the advocacy centre and the code administrators.

Morin acknowledges that many of the students who’ve been caught weren’t aware they had violated the code, “but it would be very difficult to read in your mind that you had the intention of [cheating].”

But the code still comes down hard on some students. In the past three years, 14 students have been expelled from Concordia for academic misconduct.

“For an international student, expulsion means you have to leave the country and go home,” said Morin, who plans to attend Ryder’s presentation, tentatively scheduled for sometime this month. She hopes the study can inform the next awareness campaign.

Both her and Ryder think that increasing awareness is preferable to more policing, but they both agree that policing is necessary too.

“Part of the reason we do these things is to help the students that don’t cheat,” Ryder said. “If your Concordia degree is easy to get or easy to cheat on, your degree is compromised.”

Booze flows freer for students out west

Ontario study examines regional discrepancies of alcoholism statistics

MARGARET SHERIDAN
Interrobang

LONDON (CUP)—A new cross-country survey has shown that some Canadians may consume more alcohol than others.

According to research done for the *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, Ontario and Quebec have the lowest rate of substance abuse. In most of the western provinces, however, the numbers are higher than the national average.

“Geography tends to be ignored in this kind of [study],” explained Scott Veldhuizen, co-author of the study “Geographical Variation in the Prevalence of Problematic Substance Use in Canada.”

“We tend to treat the country as homogeneous, but we know from existing work that there are usually differences between regions.”

The study showed that rates tended to be lower in central Canada and higher in the west. The average rate of substance abuse in Canada hovered around 11 per cent.

The highest average was in Saskatchewan, where just under

14 per cent of students surveyed exhibited indications of substance abuse; the lowest was in Quebec, at approximately nine per cent.

The study surprised many people by showing that alcohol abuse is less common in large urban centres than their mid-sized counterparts. The study also revealed that the lowest rate of abuse was found in Toronto, at a mere 7.8 per cent, and Montreal, at 8.1 per cent. Mid-sized cities, on the other hand, weighed in at an average of 12.6 per cent.

“It wasn’t entirely surprising though, since the situation is quite similar with, for example, crime, which is also highest in mid-sized cities—not in Toronto and Montreal,” Veldhuisen said.

Another reason Veldhuisen speculates is behind the lower rates in large cities is correlated to the immigrant population.

“Immigrants tend to settle first in major cities,” he said. “Immigrants tend to have low levels of substance use problems. Beyond that, there are a lot of possibilities. People in these cities tend to be a little better off economically and to have more educa-

tion—and, of course, it’s been argued that there are also more possibilities for recreation and entertainment.”

The study also revealed that students tend to be more susceptible to becoming substance abusers than the majority of the population, complementing data collected in 2002 by Statistics Canada.

“In terms of prevalence, we had three per cent of men 15 years and older [that] were alcohol dependant,” said Michael Tjepkema, who works as part of Statistics Canada’s Health Statistics Division.

He explained that for women, that value was 1.3 per cent, but in terms of the university population as a whole, the average was 8.6 per cent.

“The people who were most likely to be alcohol dependant are the 20–24 year olds,” Tjepkema explained.

“It seems that demographic and income differences may play a role,” Veldhuizen added, while stressing, that there’s a difference when other factors are taken into account.

“So we end up speculating [...]. Cultural differences, income inequality and other economic differences, local [alcohol taxes, and restrictions on availability] are all possibilities.”



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STUDENTS’ UNION BY-ELECTION RESULTS

THE STUDENTS’ UNION WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE ELECTED IN THE SEPTEMBER BY-ELECTION:

SU COUNCILLORS:	GFC COUNCILLORS:
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & HOME ECONOMICS Fawn Jackson	AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & HOME ECONOMICS George Reis Taryn Ng
ARTS Patrick Wisheu Caitlin Schulz Basil Bansal	ARTS Patrick Wisheu Bryant Lukes Alex Preston
EDUCATION Rachel Dunn	BUSINESS Yuri S. Broda
ENGINEERING Mark Hlady Abdul Doctor	MEDICINE & DENTISTRY Daisy Hartmann Bayan Hussein
MEDICINE & DENTISTRY Bayan Hussein	SCIENCE Andrew Rogan Karen Lawrence
NURSING Natalie Cloutier	
OPEN STUDIES Mark Prokopiuk	
SCIENCE John Braga Mark Hnatiuk Jordan Zhang	



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Free papers are nothing but trash

AH, AUTUMN, WHEN THE LEAVES START TO turn colour and fall to the ground, and the daily commuter rags along with them.

Only problem is, one of these processes is quite natural, while the other most definitely isn't. Nor is the overabundance of *Metros*, *Rush Hours*, and *24 Hours* a seasonal occurrence: by the looks of it, these rags will be littering our buses and sidewalks for months to come.

Now, far be it from me to harp on free news publications that are widely available in and around campus, being the editor of one myself. And there are, admittedly, more than a few issues of the *Gateway* that don't find their way to the recycle bin each week. But there's a difference between something that's costless and something that's valueless—and as anyone who's been suckered in to reading one of the above-mentioned dailies can attest, those publications undoubtedly fall into the latter category.

In fact, the only redeeming quality about them is that they're free of charge. But at what cost? We all know that newspapers and magazines subsist almost entirely on advertising revenue. However, the key distinction here—and one that we've apparently been taking for granted until now—is that worthwhile news publications are just that: news publications that happen to have advertising content in them. Commuter rags, on the other hand, are advertisements that happen to have some news content in them.

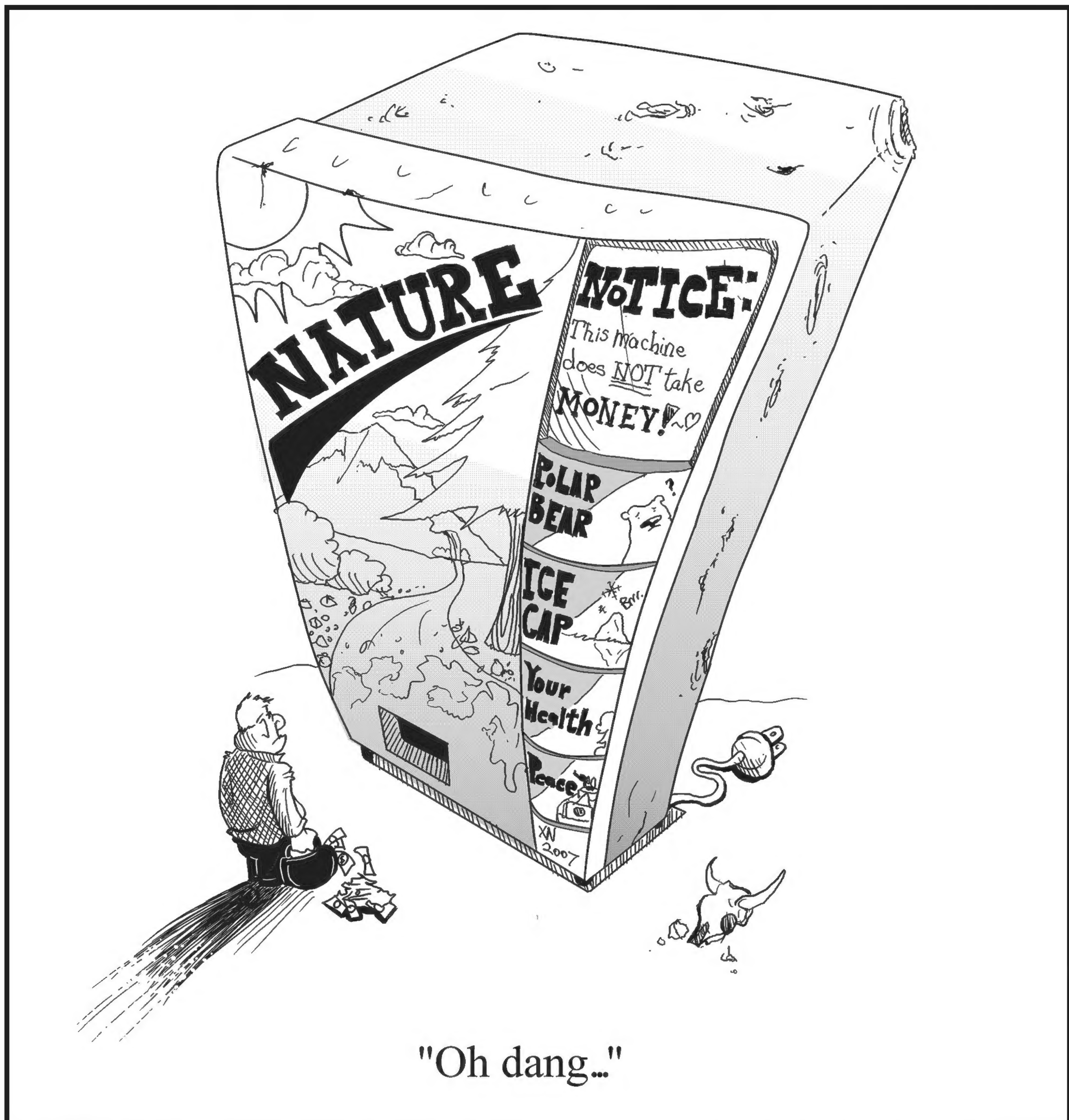
How else can you explain the fact that people will plug in a loonie or two to get a copy of the *Journal*, the *Globe*, or the *Post* on any given morning, while they'll do everything they can to dodge those Metro hawkers at the same time? (It should also be noted that pedestrians have been doing dances around the Sun's pusher-men near campus recently as well). If you're ever bored and need to kill five minutes waiting for the bus, try this experiment: watch one of those "distribution agents" try to hand out copies of their publication to passers-by, and see how many people actually take one. And of that group, try to watch how many actually do more with it than glance at the cover once and chuck it on the ground.

I may not be a statistician, but I know enough to conclude that when you have to pay people to hand out something that one can already get for themselves for free, and when empty-handed, knowledge-hungry students who're too poor to pay for a subscription and too busy to read any real newspaper *still* won't take your product when it's physically placed into their hands, the commuter-rag industry is doomed to fail.

But it's not going to go down without a fight—at least, not if the advertisers that are the true driving force behind this distribution model have anything to say about it. Ultimately, however, it will fail because being free of charge clearly isn't enough of a motivation for people to pick these things up. Not when, between radio, television—and, most importantly, the Internet—free news content abounds in our culture. This has been proven in a deliciously ironic fashion by dose.ca, the online remnant of the once equally ubiquitous *Dose* newspaper—CanWest's first attempt at gratuitous tree violence (and, sadly, the superior of the two).

For the time being, however, it's not unreasonable to expect the City to provide quite a bit more in the way of recycling bins in the areas that these papers are distributed, as the current state of much of ETS's property is rather shameful. Likewise, it's not unreasonable to expect that the readers of all newspapers to take it upon themselves to dispose of their rag of choice properly, either. So whether you're ogling at the latest car crash in *24 Hours* or devouring some celebrity gossip in *Rush Hour*, please have the decency not to jettison it onto the floor of the LRT afterwards. Likewise, once you're done digesting all of the witty and insightful content of this issue of the *Gateway*, please be so kind as to ensure its placement in a paper bin (or, even better, the eagerly awaiting hands of another student) too. Otherwise, before you know it, you won't be able to see the forest for the landfills.

ADAM GAUMONT
Editor-in-Chief



"Oh dang..."

ZHEN DONG

LETTERS

We suffered for suffrage, so make sure you use it

I couldn't agree more with Tuesday's article written by Natalie Climenhaga regarding female participation in politics (re: "YWCA Edmonton urges women to pursue a life in the political sphere," 2 October). The fact of the matter is that there's a complete lack of female interest in the political realm, and there seems to be no better example than at the student level.

Don't misunderstand me; I'm a political science student, and I see fellow female classmates actively engaging in poignant political discussion all the time, but as soon as I step out of the classroom, such examples are few and far between.

Many of my female friends say that politics just aren't interesting or applicable to their lives, but whenever I engage a male friend in political discussion, it seems that 95 per cent of the time they have an opinion.

In one of my elective courses, I had a female classmate ask our professor, "Who is George Bush?" and "I didn't know that there was a war going on in Iraq." I know that this is depicting an extremely biased picture of female students, but she was not alone in her inquiry. How could someone be so ignorant and uninformed?

My professor didn't know how to respond to her, and my classmate

simply said, "I don't care about politics because it's an ugly topic; I can't do anything about it, so why bother?"

If women want social and political equality, they have to take an interest in what's going on in the world around them and exercise their right to change it. I'm not saying that running for office is the answer for all women, but at least develop political awareness and vote—a right which Climenhaga points out has only recently been obtained in Canada and is still absent for many women throughout the world.

By not becoming politically aware and voting, you have no right to complain about potholes or the drifts of snow on our city's streets.

On 15 October, vote in the municipal election, and don't be like my fellow classmate, who will probably say, "I didn't even know that we had an election."

Don't let your voice be wasted; let your vote count.

ALLISON RUDZITIS
Political Science III

Hunting has benefits—like delicious deer jerky

I was amused to read "Hunted animals don't flourish, they stay dead" (Letters, 2 October). The author blatantly neglected facts in exchange for subjective nonsense aimed at stirring up others who are similarly ignorant. For example, Mr Pounder compared hunting to pulling the wings off flies.

PLEASE SEE LETTERS ♦ PAGE 9

LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

There is no "Man"

Reading the opinion articles in the *Gateway* lately, I have noticed an obnoxious pattern in some of the writing. What I refer to is a constant reference to the "Man." In case you are unfamiliar with this (which I doubt), the Man has been chosen to represent all forms of oppression, real or imagined. Tuition too high? Blame it on the Man. Sick of consumerism? Blame it on the Man! And so on, *ad nauseum*.

Not only is this undesirable because of its monotony and pre-pubescent ring, it's also pointless. What's often missing in these rants is the offering of helpful advice, insight, possible solutions, or calls to action. The *Gateway* is more than a platform for rants or complaints, and should be realized for its possibilities.

Using the "Man" as a scapegoat is also sexist, denying women their voice for oppression. Every one of us has felt the heaviness of the world pushing us in prescribed directions. So how do we deal with this? While the Man was convenient, easy, and well understood as a way of representing outside [unwanted] control on our lives, I feel that it's no longer a suitable metaphor.

What needs to happen is for us to put a face to whatever or whomever is trying to exert control on our lives. With specificity, cause and effect become more readily apparent. In this way, plans of action can be made to change the undesirable situation itself—or perhaps just the way it's seen.

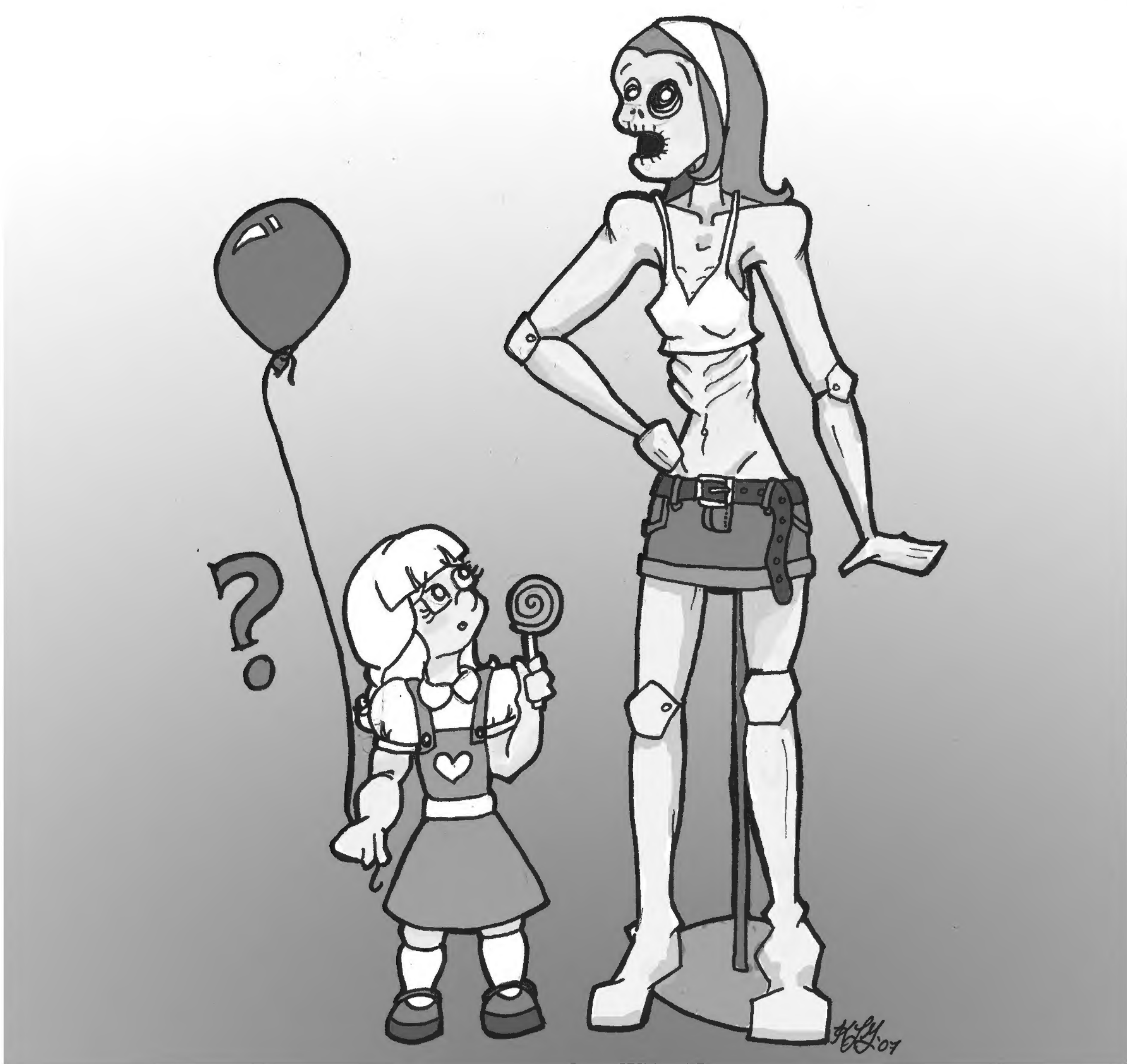
In order for the *Gateway* to maintain (some would say achieve) a sense of credibility, it must move away from adolescence. This starts with you, the reader. There's a wealth of experience in the student body that isn't bearing voice. An increase in the diversity of the articles would make the paper more interesting, challenging, as well as more mature (hopefully) in content.

This is a call to action—a challenge if you will allow me to extend that white glove. There are incredible stories in everyone and I want to hear them.

PAUL E AURCHID
4 November, 1999

Letters from the Archives is a semi-regular feature where the Gateway runs historical letters that we feel are of particular importance—or are just really hilarious.

Now you can check out all the old-timey fun for yourself! Just go to thegatewayonline.ca and follow the links to the Gateway's digital archives.



KELSEY TANASIUK

Thin mannequins need to be fed



PAUL KNOECHEL

“Having models that uphold an unhealthy image is one thing because at the very least, they can always be said simply to be exceptions to the general population. But there’s a dangerous precedent set when you take what should be a standard to the average and portray that as something with *exposed ribs*.”

Here’s a brain teaser for you: what has decades of fighting unhealthy body images in the media gotten us? Reasonably proportioned models? Maybe a decrease in eating disorders among the youth? Or perhaps simply a greater sensitivity in the fashion industry to the fact that size two is only used by a fraction of a fraction of the greater populace? Or, perhaps we’re living in a society where I can’t walk through the mall without seeing the ribs on a mannequin in a lingerie store.

That’s right: ribs on a mannequin. This has got to be a new low—or at least contending for bottom three—in this seemingly go-nowhere issue of the modern era.

This takes grotesque to a whole new level, and should come as a serious jab in the ribs to anyone who happens to see it. What does it say about how sad and shallow our culture has become when you can’t go to the mall without being repulsed by what looks like a malnourished refugee immortalized in plaster wearing a purple lace bra?

Having models that uphold an unhealthy image is one thing because

at the very least, they can always be said simply to be exceptions to the general population. But there’s a dangerous precedent set when you take what should be a standard to the average and portray that as something with *exposed ribs*.

I’m going to go out on a limb and say that showcasing three prominent ribs directly underneath each breast is not something that many women can do without a significant stretch.

Of course, this is hardly news. Barbie has been perpetuating an ideal of beauty for generations, despite the fact that she’s grossly disproportioned: her giraffe-like neck is twice as long as the average woman’s, to cite one of many such examples. Even the size of the biceps on a GI Joe are past the point where they could ever be attained by the general male populace—“GI Joe Extreme” boasts biceps larger than his waist.

But a mannequin is something that is intended to be clothed and dressed with items that actual people could wear. You can’t buy adult-sized Barbie dresses, but you’re supposed to buy whatever a mannequin is wearing, and

you’re supposed to compare yourself next to one.

I’m just praying for the day when this disgusting trend towards being skinnier and skinnier will finally begin to regress. I’m sick and tired of industry standards moving further and further away from Marilyn Monroe’s healthy measurements. I’m frustrated beyond words when I see America Ferrera’s beauty perverted on the cover of *Glamour* by free-reigning air brushes. What should really be happening is for what’s considered stylish to gravitate back towards the median, and to start defining beauty on a personal level again.

In an ideal society, that store would either be boycotted until these flagrant hyperbolic representations of human health were taken down—or at the very least, until some public anger was incited. Instead, a little four-year-old is going to walk by that mannequin later today and, seeing nothing to contradict that image for the rest of her adolescence, cry herself to sleep at 14 because she still doesn’t look how she thinks she’s supposed to.

THE BURLAP SACK

Walking through SUB at noon, I have to wade through the sea of people and try to avoid getting hit by some idiot swinging their knapsack onto their shoulders.

It’s busy, noisy, and crowded, so the average intelligent person would surmise that SUB doesn’t need more annoyances. Yet, more irritations constantly creep into the building.

Vendors pawning crap are pretty

much everywhere: near the east doors, across from the Bookstore, and in the space between the info booth and the exit to the Butterdome.

Whether these parasites are selling hair products, jewellery, or purses, they make SUB look like a flea market, not a building belonging to an academic institution.

Legitimate tables (belonging to groups that are *actually* part of the University) are getting drowned out by the presence of the SUB Sidewalk Sale.

It’s bad enough that we can’t even sit on the can without having an ad staring us in the face, but it’s even worse when

we leave the bathrooms and are immediately barraged by vendors hawking their crap.

I would love someone to direct me to the nearest burlap sack vendor so I can take the SUB salesmen and give them a lovely beating. I’ll even throw in some extra beats as interest—at reasonable student rates, of course.

MARIA KOTOVYCH

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.



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Is justice served through rehabilitation, or by the sword?

To protect society, heinous crimes should be punishable by death

As Gandhi said, 'an eye for an eye makes the whole world blind'



CAROLINE
LAVOIE

point

If capital punishment were reinstated in Canada for specific felonies, tragedies such as Edmonton's "House of Horrors" would never have materialized.

No, this isn't an early Halloween showcase—it's the story of a child who was slapped, hit, and punched in her own home. A man handcuffed her to furniture and left her for extended periods of time. He deprived her of water until she succumbed to drinking her own urine and liquid plant fertilizer. When she was unshackled, the man would rape her at bath time, force her sit with him and watch pornographic videos, and coerce her to dance provocatively for his enjoyment. She was four years old.

On 26 September, Darcy Don Bannert was sentenced to just eight years in prison for the torture and sexual abuse of a child. However, after being given a two-for-one credit for the time he served awaiting the trial, it brought his sentence down to five years and eight months.

In no way is a sentence of five years a reprimand for everything that he has done. Five years isn't sufficient for this case. Darcy Don Bannert did not sexually assault this child once—this was an ongoing affair. This was physical, psychological, and sexual abuse over an extended period of time. This child will never be the same. Her life was taken from her, and if justice is to be represented, Bannert's life should be taken as well.

This isn't the old "eye for an eye" mentality; this is to prevent him from leaving prison in five years and continuing this sick need he has to

sexually abuse children. Outside of prison, yes, Bannert will be tracked; yes, his privacy will be taken away from him; yes, virtually no one will hire him with the word *pedophile* etched on his forehead—but this isn't enough.

This won't prevent him from luring children into his home again and repeating this "House of Horrors" scenario with someone else. Rehabilitation rarely works either. It's as fallacious as attempting to change the sexual orientation of a person through guilt. Capital punishment would prevent him from ever harming another child again, and the cycle of abuse would end.

Life demonstrates that when a person is abused, they themselves are more likely to abuse another. Bannert was sexually abused as a child, and he was also raised in a violent home—he spent two weeks in the hospital when his father attacked him with a baseball bat. If capital punishment were instated in cases like Bannert's—where the evidence is irrefutable—our society would be able to both curb and stop the abuse.

Capital punishment isn't for revenge; it's to prevent such people from reoffending, and to keep the rest of society safe. Augmenting the cost of sexually abusing children would also lower the risk—something five years in prison and being tracked afterwards won't do. If the cost of pedophilia were high enough, the rates would drop.

Capital punishment isn't as inhuman as repeatedly raping a four-year-old child and preventing her from living a normal life. Bannert received his chance to life; this girl will never receive hers. He robbed that from her; he doesn't deserve one.

Five years in prison doesn't send out the message that our country will fight such depravities. It announces that they are taking a stance of tolerance for pedophiles, merely slapping him on the wrist for what they do. Our justice system has become one that chooses to serve the system, not protect the people. They should be removing the danger from our streets, permanently.



ELIZABETH
VAIL

counterpoint

Considering the atrocities recently splashed across newspaper pages regarding the Edmonton man who raped his daughter for years—starting from when she was three years old—I suppose it's only natural that some will want to pull the idea of capital punishment out of the closet of Canada's past, dust it off, and try to apply it as an appropriate measure against heinous crimes. However, the plain truth of it is that government-sanctioned murder isn't close to coming back in style—nor should it be.

I'm not saying that what this man did wasn't heinously evil, nor am I saying that the ramifications of what he did to his victim aren't as debilitating and permanent as, well, death. But reinstituting the death penalty for violent sex offenders as a solution isn't progress; it's a regression. Capital punishment is a barbaric and inhumane practice that's as old as the hills, and frankly, a civilized society should have no use for it.

The death penalty is an inefficient method of dealing with crime for several reasons. It doesn't reverse or take back the permanent psychological and physical damage that has been inflicted on the victim. It doesn't prevent sexual offences, or the development of future sexual offenders nor does it deter sexual offenders from committing their crimes. And no matter how thorough or stringent we try to make the justice system, there have always been the wrongfully accused—like David

Milgaard—who manage to slip through the cracks. It's easier to say "oops" and apologize when the guy's sitting behind bars than when he's six feet underground.

"Well," some might say, "it's cheaper to kill a criminal than to keep him in our prisons, which are all overcrowded anyway." That sure puts a positive spin on things: killing a human being because it's economical—think of the money we'll save! Wait, how much exactly would we be saving? Give me a ballpark figure in Canadian dollars about how much extra cash taxpayers would have to spend on TiVos and jalapeno-flavoured corn chips by murdering a person.

Given all these failings of the death penalty, what, then, would be the point of executing this rapist? If it can't reverse the effects of the incident or prevent future crimes, then state your motivations for what they really are: revenge. It's obvious: this man is evil, and we want him to suffer. He spent thirteen years torturing his daughter, so we return the favour by pumping him full of poison. It is eye for an eye—no more, no less.

I hate to quote cookie-baking Moms everywhere, but two wrongs don't make a right, no matter how hard you wish it to be so. There's no justice if we punish an evil act by committing an act of equal or greater evil. We have a responsibility as a sophisticated, intelligent, evolved society to discover non-lethal methods of dealing with our criminals because we're better than our criminals.

Intensify monitoring of sexual offenders; create better programs for the study and rehabilitation of sexual offenders; increase the non-lethal penalties for sexual crimes. There are a hundred different ways to deal with crimes of a sexual nature. Killing is the quick, relatively easy, and lazy solution—that's why criminals rely on it.

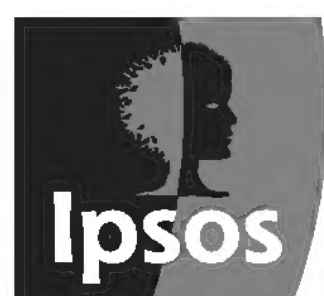
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MIKE OTTO

I ain't saying she's a gold digger ...

But if you want to get the girl, then you'd better have more to offer than a big ego



GRAHAM
LETTNER

If you're an undergraduate male and, one month into the fall term, you don't have a girlfriend you could possibly take home to mom for Thanksgiving, for shame. But if you're an undergraduate woman and you're single, well done.

Allow me to explain. Men, it's a cold, hard fact: any woman that's spent a semester or more on this campus is scoping out the size of the wallet in the back of your jeans, not the bulge in the front. It's just simple survival smarts.

Women are investors with an eye for the long-term, and, frankly, your bank account counts. Virility? That's a short-term commodity, gone long before retirement, salvageable only with earnings enough to pay for the erection enhancers.

That women are already good brokers of human capital is no surprise. The problem is that the older they get, the savvier they become. By fourth year, every varsity woman earns a part-time accounting diploma in Gross Male Earnings. And that sultry look across the lecture hall/bar room is full of man-to-earnings ratio calculations, not lust.

"Oooh, that belt looks expensive.

He buys nice leather; he's gotta have dollars to spare. And that was real cologne, not Axe. He looks reliable, looks employable, looks like he could make car payments. I might be dealing with a winner here."

So guys, while women are still young freshettes drunk off freedom and beer, make them an offer they can't refuse.

Men, it's a cold, hard fact: any woman that's spent a semester or more on this campus is scoping out the size of the wallet in the back of your jeans, not the bulge in the front.

You're captain of the table-tennis team, dammit, and ran the 4 km Turkey Trot in well under half an hour. Wow them with feats of strength now, and then when they meet your parents, they will realize that you're genetically comparable to your father, and that he only just upgraded to a self-propelled lawnmower last summer.

Seal the deal while they revel in you taking them to varsity volleyball, cheap night at the Garneau theatre, and sub-zero skating on Hawrelak pond. Hesitate, and you'll wind up playing 50 Cent to some Kanye who can swing by in something with four wheels, take

her out for overpriced steak, and buy tickets for two in Rexall's silver section. It doesn't take tons of cash—just more than you have.

On the flip side, women should just swear off men entirely until they reach that crucial year when the CAPS jobs fair actually means something more than free pens and candy. A friend—and freshly-pressed career woman—told me recently that men clue into the notion of other people having needs, feelings, and dreams of their own sometime during the last months of their degree, while women start hunting for the man they'll marry the moment they blow out their 18th-birthday candles.

There may well be an anatomical thickness to the male cranium to go along with the metaphorical one, but until we wear down our big heads with a few of life's bumps and bruises, there isn't much point in trying, ladies. Save yourself the tears, angst, and late-night calls home to mom, and instead get started planning out the designer kitchen that Mr Man is going to buy you just as soon as he graduates.

Somewhere between the extremes of this pseudo-embezzlement idiocy continuum exists the lucky few that make magic happen. Somehow, he's knocked the chip off his shoulder, and she's put her marriage/family plans on hold for now. Don't ask me how it happens—just thank your lucky stars if one of these two lucky bastards is you.

LETTERS ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

What Mr Pounder doesn't realize is that hunting serves two purposes to farmers: it reduces incidents of crops being eaten by game animals, and it puts meat on the table.

The last time I checked, flies aren't considered edible, nor do they seem to have a detrimental effect on our wheat crops. As for urban hunters who travel to the country to hunt and who have no interest in crops, I think it's commendable that they're putting clean meat on the table—meat that's free of steroids and hormones.

In addition, Mr Pounder seems to think that cars smacking into deer presents the same minor annoyance as insects hitting your windshield. Mr Pounder seems ignorant of the threat to human life—not to mention the damage caused to vehicles.

Mr Pounder is also blind to the fact that nowhere in North America is hunting waterfowl with lead shot legally permitted. Shotgun owners must use steel or another non-toxic metal. Please, Mr Pounder, do some research first.

The province's hunting initiative isn't meant to encourage killing for killing's sake, as Mr Pounder believes; rather, it's an attempt to educate people to hunt humanely and responsibly in compliance with the law and with respect to nature.

Perhaps if we had even more hunting education, people like Mr Pounder would not be so ill-informed in the future.

JOEL LONGARD
Education II

Loss of Bear Scat still felt

I'm proud to be an alumnus of the University of Alberta and to call Edmonton home. Upon reflecting back on my undergraduate years at the U of A, I decided to write to some of my professors and thank them for supporting me in my pursuit of graduate studies.

You can imagine my disconcert when, on logging on to Bear Scat to see what courses they were teaching this year, I was greeted by a plea to the SU for funds to maintain this essential service. I can't count how many of my colleagues in my four years at the University used Bear Scat to find courses, build timetables, check exam times, and register for courses.

Bear Scat brings together so much of the complex university bureaucracy in an elegant and accessible package. That the Students' Union would balk at asking students to contribute \$0.75 a semester to support this incredible service is practically shameful. That a new administration would withdraw from the promises

of its predecessors in the commitment they did offer is, frankly, scandalous.

To suggest that the successors of the kind, generous, and well-reasoned people I knew during my time at the U of A would be so cheap as to not pay the price of a bottle of pop for a service that made their lives so much easier is preposterous. Bear Scat is an important institution at the University of Alberta and has earned the right to be supported by the student body and its representatives.

Everyone feels homesick sometimes, but no one should feel sick on finding out what's happening at home.

ALEKSANDER KSIAZKIEWICZ
Alumnus

Letters to the editor should be sent via email to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

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